The CRISIS

MARCH, 1927

Fifteen cents a copy

Condensed Financial Report

SOUTHERN AID SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA, INC.

Home Office
525-27-29 N. Second St.,
Richmond, Va.

INCOME FOR 1926

Cash Bal. Brot. Fwd. Jan. 1, 1926	$ 289,424.81
Premiums and Sundry Accounts	914,868.26
Total Receipts	$1,204,293.07

DISBURSEMENTS FOR 1926

Claims paid Policyholders	$ 380,453.39
Investments and all other accts	430,514.44
Total disbursements	$ 810,967.83
Cash Bal. Dec. 31, 1926	393,325.24
Total	$1,204,293.07

ASSETS

Cash Balance	$ 393,325.24	
Petty Cash Fund	100.00	
Bills Receivable	9,306.71	
Stocks and Bonds	64,570.00	
Real Estate Mortgages	99,507.11	
Real Estate	374,801.96	
Accrued Interest and Rent	4,518.86	
TOTAL ASSETS		$ 946,129.88

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	$ 100,000.00	
Deposits of Employees	28,267.71	
Reserved for Unpaid Claims, Int. and Taxes	6,224.93	
Policy Reserve	275,000.00	
Sundry Ledger Accts.	20,116.00	
Total Liabilities		$ 429,608.64
Surplus		516,521.24
TOTAL		$ 946,129.88

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS	$ 616,521.24
CLAIMS PAID TO DEC. 31, 1926	4,396,108.79

SOUTHERN AID SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA, INC.

Home Offices: 525-27-29 N. Second St., Richmond, Va.

Insures against Sickness, Accident and Death
Operating in State of Virginia and District of Columbia

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THE CRISIS

A Record of the Darker Races

W. E. BURGHARDT DU BOIS, *Editor* AUGUSTUS GRANVILLE DILL, *Business Manager* AARON DOUGLAS, *Art Critic*

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The April CRISIS is Easter Number. We shall have an article on "Re-visiting the South" by Mary White Ovington; a review of Roy Nash's notable volume on Brazil; the story of the education of the Bond family; and something about Rose McClendon; poetry, comment and pictures. The May CRISIS will have a report on the Negro Common School in North Carolina.

The Wide Wide World

THE *German people* are being pushed resolutely toward the Right, that is, toward Reaction and Monarchy. But Socialistic Labor is still strong and will not continue to yield. There is a clash due. *French Liberalism* and Radicalism are being held back by the technical question of the value of the franc. Behind the money of nations stands today organized Credit and Banking power; and this can compel, under certain circumstances, Reform and Uplift to yield to Interest and Profit. This in France today is called "pegging the franc". Reactionary *Fascism* once started in Italy is reeling into desperate reaction in sheer self-defense. It promises wider imperialism abroad, but it seriously curtails liberty at home: no criticism; restrictions on education; restrictions on literature and art. Imperial *England*, under the autocracy of the Great and Wealthy, surges continually toward War. Only Force and Force to the uttermost can save the present conception of the British Empire. Liberal and Labor England fight desperately but futilely against the Rule of Might because the democracy that they can wield is impotent before the autocracy that holds in its hand millions of voiceless darker people. *China* can only be explained in terms of the Chinese. Russia helps but Russia does not explain China. China has awakened and is going to be free. England is going to fight for Shanghai and Hong-Kong and the immensely profitable foreign trade of China. Japan is not going to allow Western domination of the East, nor of China, when once she sees China on her own feet. America is on the fence between Anglo-Saxon Tradition and English Commercial Competition. It will be a long tale. The *United States* has three thousand million dollars invested in Mexico, Central America and the West Indies. To protect the high rate of profit which comes from this investment in colored labor through our great banks and corporations, we are almost willing to indulge in wholesale murder and oppression in Mexico and Central America as we have already in Haiti. The forces of Liberalism are speaking out and our cautious President may heed. The central problem in *Prohibition* is a matter today curiously forgotten. Whether we have laws to stop the drinking of liquor or to regulate it, individuals of character will be careful to curb in themselves the widespread and world old habit of Alcoholism. Regular heavy drinking of strong liquor is bad for the health. On this the world agrees. If you and I were agreed upon it and if we taught this to friends and children there would be little need for law. Away back in the tall timber, still dark and semi-secret, looms the greatest coming American problem: the problem of *Super-Power;* the question of the private monopoly of water power through the United States for the furnishing of electricity for factories and homes. Unless this becomes a matter of state ownership and state regulation Poverty and Wealth will gird themselves for a new battle in this land during the 21st Century.

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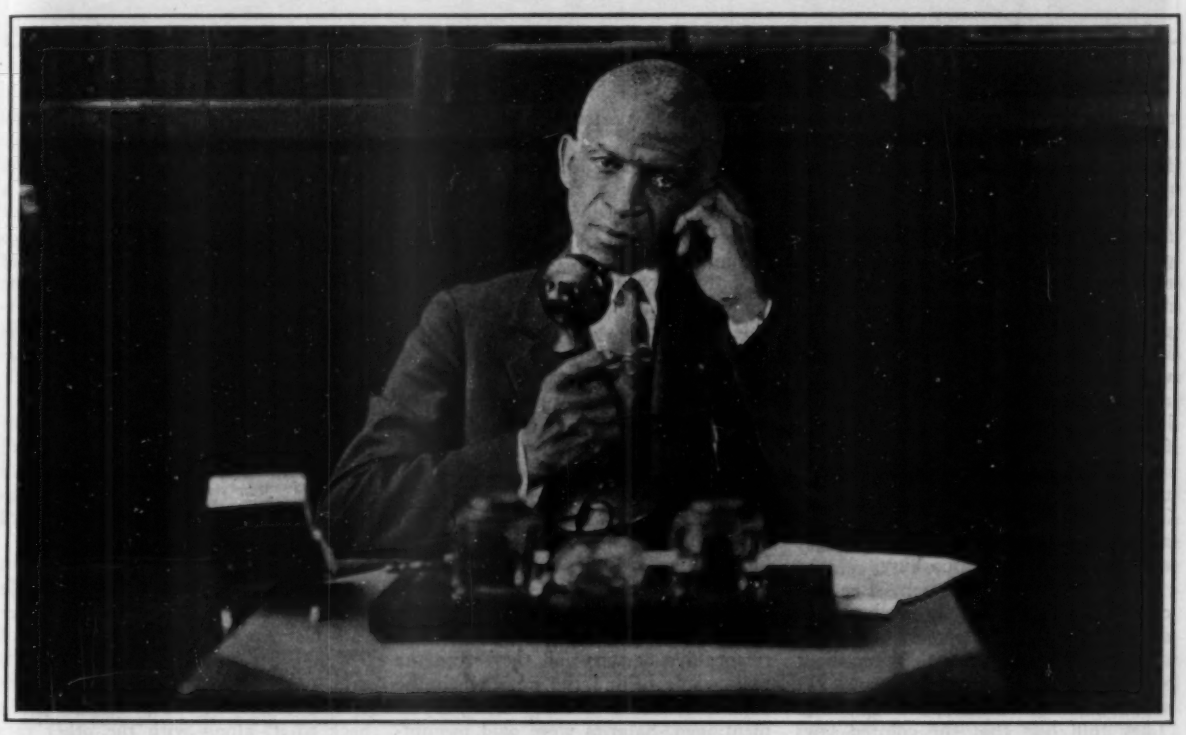
PREJUDICE

Your Cab Company

By CAMILLE COHEN-JONES

How a Colored Man Organized a Cab Company in Chicago

OUT in Oberlin, Ohio, in the seventies, Henry Lee, a colored man, owned and operated for thirty-five years a livery stable with seventy-five horses and two acres of stables. Also he and Martha Moals, whom he married, had thirteen children—six boys and seven girls. One of the boys, Walter, was born January 25, 1871, at Oberlin. From the age of seven years he assisted his father in his business, coming home from school and getting right into the heart of the business.



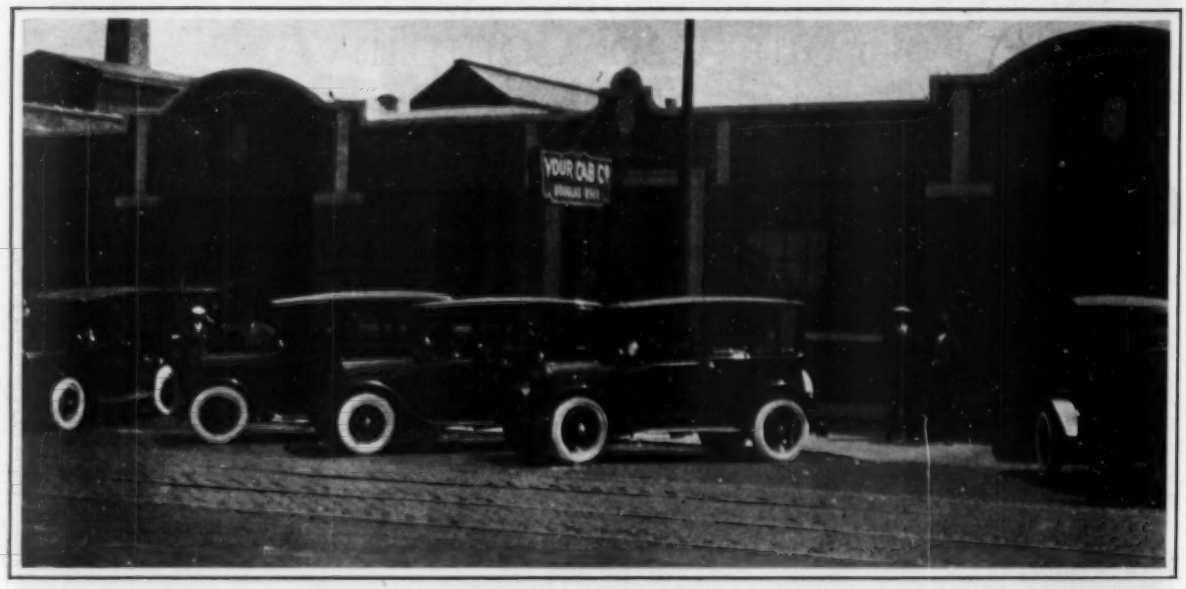
Walter Howard Lee

At the age of sixteen, Walter left school and took full charge of his father's business. Finally, when his father decided to sell out and give each child his share, Walter Howard refused to be given anything. There were too many brothers and sisters and Walter had plans of his own. He had determined to conquer Chicago.

First of all, at the age of twenty-five, Walter married Ella Nora Massey. Then he came to Chicago. After looking the field over he decided on the coal business. He opened up a wholesale and retail coal business and began to do well. But white men did not want this colored competitor and began making it hard for him to buy coal. He found he could no longer order the coal in the car loads as he needed it to meet competition. There was still some money to be made in coal and hundreds of colored men had followed him in that business when he had paved the way for them. But Walter Howard Lee wanted to do bigger business and since the way to grow here was closed, he left the coal business and became the pioneer colored ice man. He opened a wholesale and retail ice business which he managed profitably for some time until again white competitors cut off his supply in the wholesale market. Here again he left behind him a trail of colored ice men who had followed in his footsteps and were doing small but successful business; but Walter Howard Lee wanted bigger business and left the ice business to the men who were satisfied to carry on meagre profits.

That brings us then to the year of 1921 when Frank Gillespie, the Founder-President of the Liberty Life Insurance Company, had his dream and vision. He had no more enthusiastic listener than Walter Howard Lee. When the foundation for the company was laid, Lee went out as an agent and sold $45,000 of the $100,000 stock necessary to begin operating. He worked up from an agent to the position of treasurer, which he still holds in the Liberty Life Insurance Company.

LEE now began some hard thinking because he was not a mere business man: he was a Dreamer in Business, a Prophet of Profits. He wanted to find and open gates instead of sitting down before shut doors. Said Lee to himself: "Now, I have helped to form this big Insurance Company—but it takes employment to keep it up; in order for colored people to be in a position to pay their insurance premiums,



Garage of Your Cab Company, East Pershing Road, Chicago.

they must have work. I have bought stock in the Binga State and the Douglas National Banks but people can not save money unless they have some way of making it. It is up to me to find some more means for colored people in Chicago to earn money." After thinking along these lines Walter Lee, as a liveryman's son, thought he saw possibilities in the transportation problem of a large city like Chicago. He watched the Yellow Cab and its progress and he wondered why it was that he saw such a great number of Yellow Cabs with white drivers and white owners placed on the South Side where the colored people did the riding. Then too, the Yellow Cab Company served black Chicago when it got ready. It was often too busy.

After much deliberation, Lee decided he would go to the Yellow Cab owners who had a monopoly of making cabs and have a talk with them about starting a colored cab company. He was discouraged from the beginning. They told him that the colored boys could not drive the cabs—unreliable, poor mechanics, etc. In every way they tried to discourage him. Finally, seeing that he still persisted in his plan, they decided to give him a chance. Consequently, he formed a stock company with a few friends the latter part of July, 1923, and placed on the South Side ten maroon colored cabs labeled *"Your Cab Company"*; they were well equipped taxis, with colored chauffeurs in uniform, who were courteous in every way. From that day to this the *Your Cab Company* and Walter Howard Lee have been the marvels of Chicago. When you say "Your Cab" you think of Walter Howard Lee; and when you say Walter Lee you think of "Your Cab".

Mr. Lee went deeply into debt in order to prove that a colored cab company could succeed. He did not make a stock campaign—those who believed in him came to him of their own accord; but from the day he placed those ten cabs on the streets of the South Side of Chicago, the business began to pick up. First, the stock was sold for ten dollars a share, par value, paying a dividend of seven per cent on the preferred and paying that dividend right off the reel after operating the first year and every year since.

AFTER having kept his word as to dividends he started to pay off his indebtedness to the companies with which he dealt. This he did from the daily earnings of the cabs. When he placed the first ten cabs, he employed twenty-five persons and they were the real people behind the guns when the success of the *Your Cab Company* is mentioned. Salaries were paid promptly, all claims paid promptly and all notes met promptly.

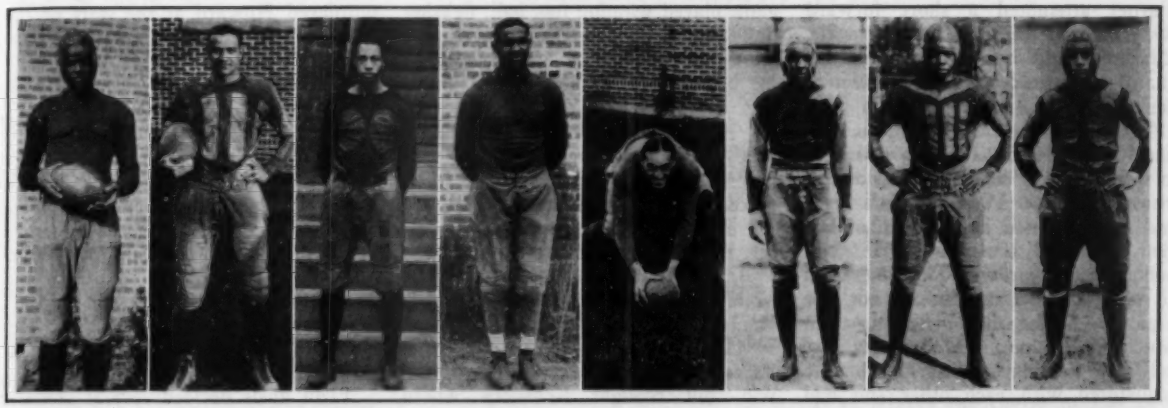
It is only natural that a company with a man at the head of it with the bull-dog-tenacity-for-the-success-of-the-business should succeed. Today the *Your Cab Company* has a paid capital of $200,000; runs eighty cabs and employs over 250 persons. It has recently gone into its own new Garage and Office Building at 415-21 East Pershing Road and has a weekly pay roll of over $3,500.

Walter Howard Lee still has a vision of more good things. He sees the opening of a *Your Cab Cafeteria*—so the employees will not have to go out to buy their lunches; they will buy right there in the building. A sales force is being organized to sell *"Your Cab"* stock. Another of his visions is the opening of a *Your Cab Tailor Shop*: he has to pay to have the uniforms of the chauffeurs made and that could just as well be done about the place thus giving employment to perhaps fifty or one hundred more boys and girls; there is pressing and repairing to be considered and the chauffeurs' shoes to be looked after; why not right here, under one roof? Best of all, why not here under one roof and all by colored boys and girls, men and women? See the wonderful possibilities of the visions of Walter Howard Lee?

Let us go further with him right now: he has visions of an automobile insurance company—it costs the *Your Cab Company* in the neighborhood of $20,000 per year to keep passengers safe. Why could it not have a company of its own, the premiums going back to it, along with the other cars insured, thus giving employment to more? Then, last but not least, he has in mind, after having completed all other things, to form an investment company—a company owned and operated by the *Your Cab Company* for the purpose of helping the little fellows get into this business in other cities—the little fellows who have visions and no money. And when he has finally completed this and given employment and assistance to thousands in Chicago, then it is possible that the Chicago colored people will let him go and organize along the same lines for other cities; they do not mean to be selfish.

Foot Ball in Negro Colleges in 1926

By PAUL W. L. JONES



Williams *Ritchie* *Miller* *Redd* *Buchanan* *Coles* *Stevenson* *Smith*

Of the First All Negro American Team.

THE greatest year in the history of Negro college foot ball was 1926. Almost every Negro college was represented by a foot ball team. Every Saturday splendid crowds gathered to watch the gridiron battles. To the larger and more important games fans flocked from every section of the country. Ten thousand saw the Tuskegee-Lincoln game at Philadelphia on October 30; about the same number witnessed the Howard-Lincoln Turkey Day battle; five thousand were present at the Wiley-Langston tilt at Dallas, Texas; seven thousand saw the contest between Wilberforce and West Virginia at Columbus, Ohio, Thanksgiving Day; six thousand attended the Atlanta and Howard game at Atlanta; seven thousand saw Wiley down Bishop at Marshall, Texas, and eight thousand looked on when Tuskegee and Atlanta clashed at Atlanta, December 4. Everywhere foot ball became more popular.

To Howard University goes the championship of Negro college foot ball in 1926. Howard's victories, with two exceptions, were won by big margins. Tuskegee looms up for claims to national championship, but Howard's victories were more impressive and give the easterners a clearer title to supremacy. Tuskegee beat Lincoln 20 to 16; Howard downed Lincoln 32 to 0. Tuskegee defeated Fisk 47 to 13; Howard smothered Fisk 56 to 0. Tuskegee won from Morehouse 28 to 6; Howard swamped Morehouse 52 to 0. Atlanta lost to Tuskegee 14 to 0 and to Howard 7 to 0. Atlanta was the only team that played both Howard and Tuskegee from which Tuskegee won by a larger score than did Howard.

Howard had great wealth of material. Linemen and backs were numerous and every man was a star. The Howard machine was well oiled with confidence and the fighting spirit and its players would not be denied victory in any contest. The smashing drives of the team overcame the most formidable opposition. The Howardites were adepts at all angles of the game and played brilliantly in every conflict.

All Negro American Teams

Position	*First Team*
End	Turner (West Virginia)
Tackle	Miller (North Carolina A. & T.)
Guard	Redd (Wiley)
Center	Buchanan (Wilberforce)
Guard	Jennings (Paul Quinn)
Tackle	Lamar (Atlanta)
End	Williams (Langston)
Half	Ritchie (Wilberforce)
Half	C. Smith (Howard)
Full	Stevenson (Tuskegee)
Quarter	Coles (Howard)

Position	*Second Team*
End	Archer (Morehouse)
Tackle	Grasty (Lincoln)
Guard	Slaughter (Atlanta)
Center	Martin (Howard)
Guard	Kitchen (Tuskegee)
Tackle	Kinmon (Wiley)
End	Simpson (Howard)
Half	Shields (Va. Union)
Half	Russ (Sam Huston)
Full	Parker (Straight)
Quarter	McPherson (Atlanta)

Position	*Third Team*
End	Wright (Atlanta)
Tackle	Lee (Hampton)
Guard	Cooke (Morehouse)
Center	Tadlock (Tuskegee)
Guard	Miller (Howard)
Tackle	V. Smith (Howard)
End	Gaither (West Virginia)
Half	Branch (West Virginia)
Half	Williams (Hampton)
Full	Joyner (Tuskegee)
Quarter	Epps (Virginia)

Tuskegee defeated all opponents. In only three contests did Tuskegee have cause to worry. It beat Talladega by only one point, 28 to 27. Talladega played the greatest game of defensive foot ball that was seen anywhere during the season. Tuskegee met stiff opposition in Alabama State, but was able to win 14 to 7. In the Lincoln game with the score 16 to 11, Stevenson, Tuskegee's great full back, on the third down, raced 80 yards for a touchdown and a few minutes later made a placement kick, making the score 20 to 16. Tuskegee taught the East a lesson. Eastern fans made the discovery that southern teams played foot ball and that foot ball bore the same trademark in all parts of the country. Let us hope that Tuskegee places on its 1927 schedule both eastern and middle west teams.

In Stevenson, Joyner, Bailey, Wooten and P. Smith, Tuskegee had five backs that were brainy, flashy and hard to stop. Tuskegee won the Southeastern Conference crown and has a clear title to the southern championship.

Wilberforce had the best team in the middle west. It lost two games, one of which it should have won easily. The Wilberforce backfield was one of the strongest of the year and its line had a hitting power that swept down opposition on almost every charge.

LINCOLN had the poorest team in its history. It lost to Wilberforce 7-0 and to Tuskegee and was crushed by Howard. West Virginia should have beaten the Lincolnites. Lincoln was on the defensive most of

the game and was outplayed in every period. An error of judgment on the part of Turner, West Virginia's quarter back, in bucking the line on four downs with the ball on Lincoln's one yard mark, saved the day for Lincoln and made the game a 7-7 tie. Had Turner attempted a short forward pass, an end run, or a run off tackle, Lincoln would have been caught off guard and would have gone down to defeat.

West Virginia did not play as brilliantly as in 1925. Its team was light in weight and it did not possess as full measure of the West Virginia fight and determination as the team of last year. Samuel Huston carried off honors in the southwest, winning from all opponents. Langston did not lose a game. Atlanta had a fighting team which would have played better foot ball had the players been thoroughly acquainted with each other and had the new men on the team been able to imbibe more fully the Atlanta spirit and to learn with greater rapidity the Atlanta system of play. It took Wiley a long time to reach the apex of form. When the Wiley men did get down to real work, they made a wonderful showing, finishing third in the Southwestern Conference. Prairie View, with a splendid team, finished just ahead of Wiley, winning three, losing one and tying one.

Hampton won the Colored Intercollegiate Athletic Association championship. It won seven games and tied Virginia Seminary and College by the field goal route 3-3. Virginia Union won six games and lost one, Hampton winning from it 12 to 0. North Carolina A. & T. lost two games, losing to Hampton 14-6 and Virginia Union 7-6. St. Paul won three, lost five and tied one. Bluefield won three and lost two. Claflin won five, lost three and tied one. Clark won four, lost three and tied one. Knoxville won five and lost three. Morris Brown won three, tied one and lost two. Alabama State won six and lost three. Lincoln (Mo.) won four and lost one. Livingstone won two and lost five. Kentucky won three and lost three.

The year saw upset upon upset. Every team had off days during the season. Wilberforce defeated West Virginia 3 to 2. Friends of both institutions predicted a tie game. The game was a hard fought battle, with Wilberforce outplaying the West Virginians in every quarter but one. Ritchie's toe was on edge Thanksgiving Day, his first attempt at a field goal scoring the winning points and his second attempt failing to score by about two inches. Wilberforce was off in its game with Lincoln (Mo.). Underestimating the strength of Lincoln, Wilberforce was beaten 8 to 0 in its first game. The Missourians had looked forward to the Wilberforce game with doubts and fears, but they were determined to give good account of themselves and from the start of the game played winning foot ball, fighting desperately to hold any advantage which they chanced to gain and fighting brought them victory.

LANGSTON gave Lincoln (Mo.) a sound beating. Lincoln's victory over Wilberforce caused it to be picked to win, but Langston won easily, outplaying Lincoln in every quarter, the final score being 43 to 0.

Atlanta beat Morehouse 32 to 0 and Wiley downed Paul Quinn 30 to 0. Kentucky, after beating Simmons 13 to 12, was badly licked by Knoxville 33 to 0. Fans predicted a Knoxville win, but thought Kentucky would make a better showing, having touchdowned on both West Virginia and Wilberforce. Virginia Union defeated North Carolina A. & T. and Talladega beat Atlanta 19 to 0. Knoxville beat Talladega 21 to 6 and Atlanta trounced Knoxville 6 to 0. Clark was defeated by Morris Brown 6-3 and Claflin beat Morris Brown 12 to 3. Florida conquered Morris Brown 12 to 3, only to lose later to Clark 13 to 3.

West Virginia was off form when Lincoln was played. Atlanta lost to Alabama State because the Atlantans did not regard Alabama a formidable foe. North Carolina State did not play its best in several engagements. Straight lost to New Orleans 12 to 9 because Straight players were not in that frame of mind which brings men to fight their hardest. Howard's warriors did not play the brand of foot ball that conquers against Atlanta. True Atlanta fought and fought stubbornly, but had Howard played more watchfully and with less confidence, its victory might have been won by a bigger score. Atlanta outfought and outplayed Howard at the start of the game. The "breaks" favored Howard.

Hampton defeated Virginia Union when everybody expected a tie or a Union victory. Clark defeated Morehouse 7 to 6 and Morehouse downed Fisk by the same score. Fisk was looked upon to win, and fans were surprised when Morehouse emerged triumphant from the conflict. Morris Brown tied Atlanta, 0-0, and Southern tied Straight, 0-0. "Jap" Turner's toe gave Prairie View victory over Wiley, 3-0, and Clark beat Atlanta, the score being 9 to 0.

Field goals decided several contests and the forward pass was a factor in many victories. Bluefield passed its way to a 35 to 12 victory over Virginia Seminary and College; Paul Quinn tied Prairie View with the passing game; Talladega developed a passing system which was difficult to solve; Morehouse's victory over Fisk was bought with a pass of 63 yards; Atlanta beat Fisk by forward passing when gains were needed and Howard's combination of Smith to Coles was a passing signal that proved a pricking thorn to many teams, piercing the stiffest defense.

1926 brought to light more star players than ever before loomed up in Negro college foot ball and it is no easy task to select eleven men who could be called the strongest team in the country. The number of out-

(*Turn to page* 23)

Leading Players, Washington High School, Norfolk, Va., Interstate High School Champions

The White Primary

The N.A.A.C.P. Attack on Disfranchisement

DISFRANCHISEMENT in the Southern States was brought to a sharp focus before public opinion in the so-called Texas "White Primary" case argued before the United States Supreme Court early in January by attorneys for the N.A.A.C.P. For the Texas law, thus challenged before the highest tribunal in the land, constitutes one of the most flagrant attempts to deprive the Negro of his vote ever known in the United States.

It is of course only part of the system in force throughout the South, instituted during Reconstruction and, in fact, is a hold-over of the slavery regime. Even the construction by the Supreme Court at various times of the 15th Amendment to the United States Constitution has contributed to the disfranchisement of colored voters. For, by the Supreme Court's interpretation, a Negro might be beaten, intimidated, obstructed by violence in the attempt to vote. Yet, unless he could prove that the violence was practised on account of race or color, the Negro had no redress. To quote from Dr. Kirk H. Porter's "Suffrage in the United States": "In a word, the courts asked the Negro to prove what everybody knew to be a fact—that he was being kept from the polls on account of his race and color. And the unfortunate black found it quite impossible to prove that white ruffians waylaid and beat him because he was a Negro and intended to vote. It is hard to get away from the fact that the court decisions violate the spirit of the war amendments."

The disfranchisement practised under cover and color of legality elsewhere in the South was made a matter of open enactment on the books of law in the case of Texas. The legislature of this state in 1923 passed an act explicitly barring all persons of color from voting in the primaries of the Democratic party. The act reads as follows:

"All qualified voters under the laws and constitution of the State of Texas, who (*sic*) is a bona fide member of the Democratic Party, shall be eligible to participate in any Democratic primary election, provided such voter complies with all laws and rules governing party primary elections; however in no event shall a Negro be eligible to participate in a Democratic party primary election held in the State of Texas and should a Negro vote in a Democratic primary election, such ballot shall be void and election officials are herein directed to throw out such ballot and not count the same."

Such a law in a northern or western state, where parties are more or less evenly divided, would operate only to the disadvantage of the party in whose behalf such a law was passed. But in the South, particularly in Texas, where the Republican party possesses virtually no numerical strength whatever and where the candidates designated in the Democratic primaries are by that fact virtually elected to office, such a law as effectively deprives the Negro of a voice in elections as if he had been forbidden to vote altogether.

THE case testing and challenging this law originated in El Paso. In that city Dr. L. A. Nixon, colored doctor of repute and good standing as a citizen, was a regularly enrolled member of the Democratic party and had paid his poll tax. He attempted on July 26, 1924, to vote at a general primary election at which there were to be selected candidates for precinct, county, district and state offices and also for representative in Congress and the United States Senate on the Democratic ticket. When Dr. Dixon applied at Precinct Number Nine in El Paso, the judge and associate judge of elections there declined to permit him to cast a ballot, on the ground of the Texas law mentioned above. In order to enable a test case of the law to be made, the election officials furnished Dr. Nixon with the following certificate:

"This is to certify that we, C. C. Herndon and Chas. Porras, Presiding and Associate Judges, respectively, have not permitted L. A. Nixon to vote, as per Instruction 26 given in ballot boxes to election holders."

C. C. HERNDON
CHAS. PORRAS

July 26, 1924.

This case was carried through the United States District Court for the western district of Texas, which upheld the election judges in their refusal to allow Dr. Nixon to vote. From this decision appeal was taken to the United States Supreme Court which heard argument on January 5, 1927. The National Office of the N.A.A.C.P. employed as counsel in this case Fred C. Knollenberg of El Paso, a white attorney who had been retained by Dr. Nixon and the El Paso Branch of the N.A.A.C.P. and associated with Mr. Knollenberg in the preparation of the brief were Moorfield Storey, President of the N.A.A.C.P., James A. Cobb of Washington and Robert J. Channell of El Paso.

At the hearing of the case before the Supreme Court in Washington Mr. Knollenberg was accompanied by Arthur B. Spingarn, vice-president of the N.A.A.C.P. and Chairman of its National Legal Committee. Mr. Knollenberg presented statistics showing that the vote of the Republican Party in Texas in the last election had been negligible; and that therefore the Democratic Party primaries in fact constituted the only opportunity for citizens to express themselves in the election of state and national officers.

DURING the course of the argument, the grave and solemn members of the Supreme Court manifested unusual interest. They asked frequent questions and the nature of the questions indicated a difference in opinion among the judges, as to the merits of the case. Justice Pierce Butler, for example, asked questions indicating a belief that primary elections did not constitute elections under the law and that exclusion from party primaries did not therefore constitute disfranchisement. Chief Justice William Howard Taft, however, and Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes seemed to attach more importance to the case, as did Justice Sutherland and questions of Chief Justice Taft indicating that if it were possible to exclude Negroes from Democratic party primaries, there was no reason why they could not be excluded from Republican primaries elsewhere. Mr. Knollenberg pointed out to the Supreme Court that the question at issue was the right to vote as guaranteed in the Fifteenth Amendment and the amendment did not specify whether the voting was to be in general elections or for candidates for office. The right conferred, Mr. Knollenberg contended, included the right to vote in primaries, in the issue of bonds and in all matters upon which the views of the electorate are to be obtained.

THE State of Texas was not officially represented before the Supreme Court. It was noticed, however, that a red-haired young man was sitting in the Court listening intently to the argument and the questions of the Justices. Mr. Spingarn followed Mr. Knollenberg and concluded the argument in behalf of Dr. Nixon and the N.A.A.C.P. When he had finished, the red-haired young man jumped up and asked permission to file a reply

brief for the State of Texas. The young man was identified as Dan Moody, Attorney General of Texas and newly elected Governor of the State. The Supreme Court gave him 30 days in which to file such a brief and the N.A.A.C.P. then applied for time in which to file a brief replying to Texas. This was granted to Mr. Spingarn in behalf of the N.A.A.C.P.

In connection with this case, it should be borne in mind that what is involved is not the right to vote or to join the Democratic party. The case arose solely and simply because a colored voter, clearly entitled to vote as a member of that party, was denied the right to participate in its primary elections because of his color. The precedent so established, if allowed to go unchallenged, would be a highly dangerous one for the Negro as well as for all minority groups in the United States.

The case raises also the vital question of the control by Congress over party primaries. It shows the inconsistent position adopted by a number of southern Democrats in Congress, who contended that Congress had the right to regulate the expenditures of candidates to office in primary elections held in northern states but that the Federal government was powerless to prevent barring of colored voters in the South. This inconsistency was clearly pointed out by a white Southern daily, the Macon, Georgia, *Telegraph*, which in an editorial of January 6 stated:

"It is expected that the decision of the court in the Nixon-Herndon Case may have some bearing also on the question of what extent of Federal control may be exercised over expenditures of money in party primaries. The ruling may aid in the solution of some of the problems which are expected to arise in considering the credentials of Senator Vare of Pennsylvania, and Senator Smith of Illinois. The Democrats who are most vociferous in clamoring for the exclusion of the two Senators because of excessive spending in the party races may thus be placed in a dilemma by insisting on Federal jurisdiction over Republican primaries in Pennsylvania and Illinois while demanding that the United States Government keep its hands off the Texas Democratic Primaries."

The case aroused an enormous amount of interest throughout the South for once again it manifested to the dominant white public opinion that the colored people even of Texas were not willing to sit quietly by while their constitutional rights were either whittled away or, as in the case of Dr. Nixon, boldly and flagrantly denied. The N.A.A.C.P. believes this case is one of the important milestones in the combat for the Negro's franchise and citizenship rights. In the reply brief, besides the formidable array of counsel already named, Mr. Louis Marshall, member of the Board of Directors of the N.A.A.C.P. and one of the foremost constitutional lawyers in the United States, is co-operating.

Miss Simmie Johnson

N. A. A. C. P. Notes

Simmie Etta Johnson, age 13, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sim Johnson, Los Angeles, California, sacrificed her lunch at school for five days to be able to put one dollar ($1.00) of her own money into the Baby Contest there.

The Los Angeles Baby Contest raised $4,050.55, the largest amount ever raised by a single effort for the N. A. A. C. P. Mrs. J. M. Scott acted as chairman, Dr. Vada J. Somerville, Secretary, Mrs. Simuil Johnson, Assistant Secretary, Mrs. T. A. Cole, Treasurer, Mrs. Ruth Fowler, Program Committee, and Mrs. Mamie V. White, Publicity Committee.

Clarence Darrow's Argument in Sweet Case in Pamphlet Form

BECAUSE of its great historical, legal and humanitarian value, the full argument of Mr. Clarence Darrow to the jury in the trial of Henry Sweet has been reprinted in full by the N.A.A.C.P. and is now available for circulation. As is well known, this trial resulted in the jury acquittal of Henry Sweet, chosen by the State for separate trial because the State felt it had strongest evidence against him. It will also be remembered that the first trial in October and November, 1925, when all eleven defendants were tried jointly, resulted in a hung jury.

In addition to the full stenographic report of Mr. Darrow's speech, there is a statement of the case also written by Mr. Darrow and a brief foreword. The N.A.A.C.P. feels that this pamphlet is one of the most important documents it has ever printed. No man, however prejudiced, can read Mr. Darrow's plea for tolerance and the abolition of race prejudice without profit.

This publication should be in the hands of every person who followed this great trial which reaffirmed and preserved the right of self-defense to a Negro who had defended his family and home against the wanton assault of a mob. It should also be placed in the hands of mayors, chiefs-of-police and other officials of cities wherever there is any appreciable Negro population; in the hands of sheriffs of counties and governors of states, secretaries of organizations like chambers of commerce, Rotary clubs, women's clubs—in brief, wherever there are persons in authority who need to know what lay back of the attack upon the home of the Sweets in Detroit.

To gain as wide circulation as possible, the Association is distributing this pamphlet at the cost of printing and mailing. Single copies can be secured from the National Office, 69 Fifth Avenue, New York, at 15 cents per copy; in lots of 100, it can be secured for $10 per hundred. Branches of the N.A.A.C.P., churches, clubs and other interested organizations are urged to aid in the widest possible distribution of this most important document.

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"DRAMATIS PERSONAE"

Lady Windermere's Fan

HESTER TRAVERS SMITH reports some strange sayings, or perhaps more accurately strange writings in her "Oscar Wilde from Purgatory", recently published by Holt. If a companion volume might be launched entitled "To Oscar Wilde in Purgatory", narrating doings and changes of our *terra firma,* I doubt if any one thing would bring more astonishment to the exotic author of that delightful drawing-room melodrama, "Lady Windermere's Fan", than the plain fact that a Negro College Alumnae Club successfully presented the play before an appreciative Negro audience.

On the evening of December the third an interesting cast presented this English comedy of manners in Charleston, West Virginia, under the direction of Mrs. T. G. Nutter. The stage of the Garnett High School was entirely inadequate to give proper setting. Yet this handicap was skillfully overcome by scenic effects, utilizing the meager space by deft illusion of lighting and of color. Incidental music was furnished by Miss Maude J. Wanzer at the piano, and "between-act" selections by the West Virginia Collegiate Institute Orchestra led by Clarence Cameron White,—a comprehension for what the stage lacked in giving tone and background to the performance.

Vera Powell as Mrs. Erlynne

Clara Savoy as Lady Windermere

The costumes were perfect, "a la mode" however, and not of the eighteen nineties.

The acting was not of professional calibre of course, but showed those latent possibilities of the amateur which training and experience often raise to the professional class.

Particularly noteworthy were the fine interpretation of Theodore Nash in the role of Lord Windermere, the poise of Clara Savoy as Lady Windermere and the sophisticated impersonation by Vera Powell of the clever, the daring Mrs. Erlynne. The remainder of the players gave intelligent rendering of their parts.

It was at the beginning of Thomas Beer's "The Mauve Decade", when Wilde first produced his witty *tour de force.* Then the Negro was the jester of the American stage, the buffoon of the gallery gods, the slap-stick clown of audiences that reveled in his special fitness to play the fool. Now Gilpin

Julius Bledsoe in Abraham's Bosom.

"The School For Scandal" as given at Rust College, Mississippi

and Paul Robeson have carried on the forgotten conquests of Ira Aldridge; Montgomery Gregory and the Howard Players have pioneered, Ridgely Torrence has written, the Little Theater for Negroes is growing in the metropolis. That the ancient art of acting should be courted *province* is a step in the evolution of more congruous plays of Negro characters for Negro actors, after the manner of Yiddish characters for the Yiddish theater.

JOHN F. MATHEUS.

In Abraham's Bosom

"IN ABRAHAM'S BOSOM" is a play written by a young southern white man, Paul Green, and produced at the Provincetown Theatre, New York, with all colored actors, save two. The acting is excellent. The work of Julius Bledsoe, Abbie Mitchell, and Rose McClendon is particularly good; the other actors sustain well difficult parts.

But the play itself, or rather, as we understand it, the combination of several plays into this one is not good. It is ill-balanced. The strain upon the audience which comes from listening to a long play in seven scenes which begins with the whipping of a human being and culminates in a lynching, with few spots of light and none of hope, is too terrible. The climax of horror, murder and disappointment in the sixth scene goes right on to a further climax in the seventh. It is not a question of truth; such things have happened in the South and are happening, but it is a question of art and balance, of getting the story over.

Paul Green is a sympathetic author. He feels with his black folk. But he and his producers between them have

Julius Bledsoe, who takes the title rôle in the play, "In Abraham's Bosom".

Abbie Mitchell, who plays "Muh Mack" in the play, "In Abraham's Bosom".

presented the same defeatist genre of Negro art which is so common and at the present apparently inescapable. It arises from the fact that the more honestly and sincerely a white artist looks at the situation of the Negro in America the less is he able to consider it in any way bearable and therefore his stories and plays must end in lynching, suicide or degeneracy.

If after looking further and seeing the Negro group, noting its bounding energy and sturdy refusal to take defeat, the artist tries to give his black hero a degree of triumph, spiritual or physical, he meets, usually, the absolute refusal of the producer: "It can't be done"; "the audience won't stand it"; nothing but disaster must follow self-assertion and success among black folk on the American stage.

I can but think that this is but pure assumption and that the time has come for the Negro to be treated humanly on the stage, not only as to his suffering, but as to his plain and unquestionable triumphs.

W. E. B. D.

¶ The Krigwa Players' Little Negro Theatre of New York City presented the first program of their second annual season January 17, 19 and 24. Three one act plays, "Mandy" by W. J. Jefferson, "Foreign Mail" and "Her" by Eulalie Spence and "Pandora's Box", an interpretive dance and dialogue by J. Gordon Amend, were included on the program. Charles Burroughs is director. The Washington, D. C., Krigwa Players gave three one act plays by Willis Richardson and Oliphant Down in February.

¶ The Faculty of Rust College, Holly Springs, Mississippi, showed great talent in their presentation of Sheridans' old English comedy, "The School for Scandal", which was given recently in the Rust College Auditorium.

POETRY AND PAINTING

God's Garden

By LESLIE PINCKNEY HILL

GOD nurtures in his garden many fruits.
Some, very slow of growth, become at last
Sweet and enduring. Some put forth their shoots
With hasty promise, bloom and soon are past.

Each has its season and the husbandman
Waits patiently, remembering that each
Must strive within its nature as it can
Its own appointed destiny to reach.

So patiently the eye of faith can see
The nettle-blooms of war and hate increase,
While slowly through the ages grows that tree
Whose leaves are healing and whose fruit is peace.

Near the Cedar Tree

By ARNA BONTEMPS

YOU'LL wait no more at the cedar tree alone,
And at the quiet water's edge no more;
The wind passed over you and you were gone,
So are the woods more lonely than before.

But if you flower again thus happily
After all of death is past,
Wait for me beside the slender tree
And I will see you there and come at last.

Sonnet to Her

By COUNTEE CULLEN

HOW have I found this favor in her sight,
And will the flame burn steady to the end,
Until we round that dark and dangerous bend
Where there is such a crying need for light;
Or will it flare up now so clear and bright,
Sunlike its wealth so far and wide distend
That nothing will remain for us to spend
When toll is taken by the dismal night?

Why should I harrow up my mind like this,
To tarnish with a doubt each golden kiss?
This is the Day most certainly! This bars
Us now from any hidden darkness spun;
Sufficient to the day let be the sun,
And to the night the spear-points of the stars.

Aaron Douglas

AARON DOUGLAS of New York City received first prize for his drawing, "The African Chieftain", in THE CRISIS Contest for 1926. Mr. Douglas who attended the public schools in Topeka, Kansas, was graduated from the University of Nebraska, class of 1922, with the A. B. degree. He was teacher of drawing in Lincoln High School, Kansas City, Missouri, from 1923 until 1925, when he came to New York City to study under Winold Reiss. His drawings have been reproduced in the *Theatre Arts*, *The New Negro*, the *Boston Transcript*, the *New York Sun*, the *New York Herald* and *The Crisis*. Mr. Douglas joins the staff of THE CRISIS with this number.

Tragedy

By EDA LOU WALTON

I KNOW of but one tragedy
Beside which Death is good:
Hands that are carved of ivory
Grow stained as cinnamon wood.

The Wasters

By CHARLES FARWELL EDSON

WE flung our land away like drunken bums;
Used up our forests with a blithe disdain;
Gave out the People's heritage to those
Who robbed and re-robbed in the name of Law.
We worked men too long hours, too late in life;
Began with children too young to demur;
Harassed poor women wrecked by waves of chance
Until they knuckled down to those who bought.
Our States in rare magnificence of graft
Poured gold like swill to bosses' favored few;
Our Congress squandered millions year by year
With Business Inefficiency its God.
Too proud to learn from older lands than ours,
Too childish to admit our weaknesses
We flung our bodies, minds and souls away—
Boastful, weak, arrogant, poor, selfish fools.

At Dawn

By EDA LOU WALTON

ONLY this perfect night is ours,
Only its beauty we possess,
Now stillness creeps across the stars
And into your kiss my loneliness.

To John Haynes Holmes

(Read at the Testimonial Dinner to John Haynes Holmes in recognition of his twenty years as Minister of the Community Church of New York City.)

By COUNTEE CULLEN

ONCE in a thousand years a call may ring
Divested so of every cumbering lie
A man espousing it may fight and sing,
And count it but a little thing to die;
Once in a thousand years a star may come
Six-pointed, tipped with such an astral flow
It's singing sisters must bow hushed, dumb,
Half-mutinous, yet half-adoring show;
Once in as many years a man may rise
So cosmopolitan of thought and speech,
Humanity reflected in his eyes,
His heart a haven every race may reach,
That doubters shall receive a mortal thrust,
And own "This man proves flesh exalts its dust".

Unfinished Masterpieces

By ANITA SCOTT COLEMAN

THERE are days which stand out clearly like limpid pools beside the dusty road; when your thoughts, crystal clear as water, are pinioned in loveliness like star-points. Solitary days, which come often, if you are given to browsing in fields of past adventure; or rarely, if you are seldom retrospective; and not at all, if you are too greatly concerned with rushing onward to a nebulous future. Days whereupon your experiences glimmer before you waveringly like motion-pictures and the people you have known stroll through the lanes of memory, arrayed in vari-colored splendour or in amusing disarray. Days like these are to be revered, for they have their humors and their whimsicalities. Hurry your thoughts and the gathering imageries take flight. Perplexity but makes the lens of introspection blur. And of annoyance beware, for it is an evil vapour that disseminates and drowns the visions in the sea of grim realities. Such days must be cultivated. Scenes for their reception must be set. Cushions perhaps, and warmth of fire. Above all, the warmth of sweet content. Ease and comfort, comfort and ease and moods of receptivity. Then hither, come hither the places and the people we have known, the associations that withstand time's effacements. Backward ho, through the mazes of the past.

STOP! "Why howdy, Dora Johns." Darling playmate of my child-years. With wooly hair a length too short for even pigtails. Mud-spatters upon your funny black face. Mud-spatters all over your dress and your little black hands mud-spattered too.

Why? What? Come on and see. And lo! I am a child again.

Hand in hand, unmindful of her muddy ones, we skip around the old ramshackle house, back to the furthest corner of an unkempt yard, impervious to the tin cans, the ash-heap, the litter, the clutter that impedes our way, our eyes upon, our thoughts bent upon one small clean-swept corner, where there is mud. More mud and water in a battered tin can. And row after row of mud. No, not mud—not merely mud, but things made out of mud. Row on row, drying in the sun.

Carefully, I sit down, doubling up, to be as small as possible, for only this corner where mud things are drying is clean and corners are seldom, if ever, quite large enough. Besides, I must not touch the things made out of mud. If the dried ones fall, they break. If the moist ones are molested, be it with ever so gentle a finger, they lose their shape. Moreover, I must not disturb Dora.

This essay won the second prize of $25 in THE CRISIS *contest of 1926.*

Her little hands are busied with the mud. Little moulder's fingers are deftly plying their skill. Her child's face is alight. What has splashed her grave child's face with such a light? I wondered. I wonder now. The glitter of brittle talent, a gleam of sterling genius or the glow from artistic fires burning within the soul of a little black child?

LITTLE DORA shaping figures out of mud. Vases and urns, dolls and toys, flying birds and trotting horses, frisking dogs and playing kittens, marvelous things out of mud. Crying aloud as though dealt a blow if one of the dried mud-figures is broken. Working in mud for endless hours, while the neighbor children play. Their hilarious merriment dropping like bombs into the quiet of our clean-swept corner. Deadly missiles seeking to find a mark. The insistent halloes of futile mirth forever bubbling on the other side of a high-board fence. The dividing fence and upon one side the clean-swept corner and the row on row of mud things drying in the sun. And Dora seeming not to heed the seething bubbles upon the other side, shaping, shaping marvelous things out of mud.

Yet, Oh Dora, now that the day is ours, will you not say, "When did the bombs of futile mirth strike their target? When did the tin-cans and the rags and the old ash-heap crowd you out from your clean-swept corner? What rude hand caused the dried mud shapes to fall and break? Who set a ruthless foot in the midst of your damp mud things?" Or were you too plastic, as plastic as your mud? You dare not tell. Only this you can whisper into the mists of our today. You are one of the Master's unfinished shapes which He will some day gather to mould anew into the finished masterpiece.

A LUMP of mud. Now, there is a sobriquet for you—you funny, funny man. Mr. William Williams. I saw you but once. We chanced to meet in the home of a mutual friend. I thought you so very funny then. Uncouth and very boorish, but ever, when these pageants of the past, these dumb shows of inarticulate folks arise before me upon retrospective days, you appear garbed in the tatters of pathos.

"I am fifty-one years old," you kept repeating. How pitiful those fifty-one years are. You wear a child's simplicity, the sort that is so sad to see upon a man. Fifty-one and penniless. Fifty-one and possessed of naught else but the clothing you wore. Fifty-one and no place on earth you might call home. You confessed to being a vagabond though "bum" was the term you used and you were very proud of your one accomplishment, an ability to avoid all labour.

"I've given no man a full day's honest work in all my fifty-one years," you boasted. "I gambles. I ain't no cotton-pickin' nigger." Your one and only boast after holding life, the fathomless fountain of eternal possibilities, in your possession for fifty-one priceless years.

Nevertheless you have lived and so intensely. You held us against our will. Clustered around you, listening to you talk. Relating clippings as it were from the scrap-book of your life.

Tales of the road, of the only places you knew. Roads leading away from plantations where the cotton waited to be picked by numberless "cotton-pickin' niggers". Roads leading to pool halls and gambling dens. Roads beginning and roads ending in "riding the roads", carrying backward and forward, here and yon through the weird goblin land of the South's black belt.

With a hardened casualness you told stories that revolted and at the same time cheered us with an all sufficing glow of thankfulness that life had spared us the sordidness of yours. Offhandily, you gave us humourous skits that tempered our laughter with wishes that we might know at least a bit of such a droll existence as had been yours. With magical words you painted pictures so sharply they cut scars upon our hearts. You drew others so filled with rollicking delight their gladsomeness was contagious. With the nonchalance of a player shuffling cards you flipped your characters before us, drawn directly from the cesspool of your contacts and spellbound we listened.

Someone remarked how wonderful

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The Little Page

EFFIE LEE NEWSOME

Calendar Chat

WHAT takes place in March? Winds blow! How quickly we would think of this. But there is much to tell of plants and birds busied with March's program, for this is a month of purpose. Here are March notes from two diaries, one of nineteen hundred and twelve, the other of many years later.

March 21, 1912. You should see the great round red buds on the maple trees!

The pointed russet buds on our poplar tree are an inch and a half long.

Branches on the briar rose bush are moss green.

Many years later. March 21. Cardinal's bold whistle, Bluebird's gentle murmur, Mourning Dove's sad alto, Song Sparrow's sharp piping have been preparing my ears for this—Robin's sturdy song. Business has begun. The Robins have arrived. Now for nest building with true masonry.

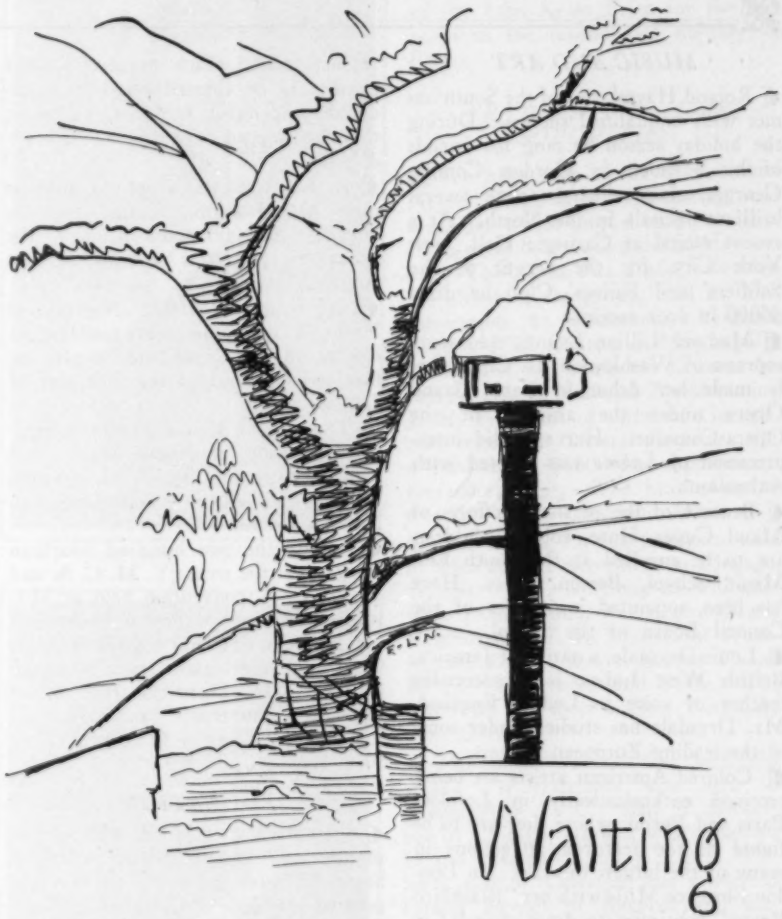
Yet all winter I had believed it was the Bluebirds I was most anxious to see. I have been watching the little bird house on a pole in the side yard and longing for the coming of the Wrens and Bluebirds. While scattering crumbs along the walk or placing cracked nuts on the windowsills for the Jays and Titmice and Chickadees I have continued to look longingly toward the empty bird house with snow on its little roof and doorsills and in gazing at the black spots that were all the entrances showed of a barren inside I have thought, "Never mind. Bluebirds are coming".

But when they get here they never do anything great like Robin. Fancy their being content to start housekeeping quietly in some old Woodpecker hollow or a home placed for them on a pole. Can you imagine Robin or Oriole starting the season in this fashion? And yet what lovable neighbors are Bluebird and Wren!

That reminds me. I know a lady who lives on a river bank. There are water willows in her back yard and a few days ago I was looking toward these for a glimpse of the frozen river beyond. I cannot tell you of the strange beauty of this water in the winter. I am sure some Japanese painter would love to make a dainty drawing of it, with the somber willows walling its grayish white and frosted green.

In searching through the willows for the river I discovered two swinging bird houses that were the color of the trees. I forgot all about the river and began to ask questions concerning the little boxes. Wrens often built there, I was told. It must make things lively for the gray old willows to have such cheery creatures summering there. Indeed I know the willow boughs are shaking now with pleasure.

For Wren time is nearly here!



Time for Kites!

"TIME for kites, heigho!", cried March Wind as he sped over sea and land.

"Aye, aye, sir", promptly answered a red-faced seaman on the Jolly Johnny and he hoisted the sky-sails.

But March Wind hurried off. For he had not wished to play with what the man beneath the sails called "kites", the high flying-jib topsails. Oh, no!

"Time for kites", March Wind sang out again as he crossed over the water and reached the land.

"Very well", called a keen-eyed bird with long graceful wings. "It really seems rather early for the beetles and locusts and grasshoppers upon which I feed. But you said 'Time for kites' and I'm a 'kite', you know."

"Oh, no, I did not mean you at all", snapped the March Wind shortly. "I forgot there was a falcon-like bird called a 'kite'."

Then he sped on nearer the ground and cried again, "Time for kites".

"Good", shouted Harold Laddy who was homeward bound from school, "I'll get my kite right away".

And off he ran.

"Hurry, hurry, hurry!" cried March Wind flying after him, satisfied this time, for he, like the boys, loved to play with paper kites. Indeed when March Wind failed to join the kite-flyers they had little success.

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ALONG THE COLOR LINE

MUSIC AND ART

¶ Roland Hayes' tour of the South has met with unqualified success. During the holiday season he sang for friends of his boyhood in Gordon County, Georgia, after which he gave several brilliant recitals in the North. At a recent recital at Carnegie Hall, New York City, for the benefit of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Club he drew $6000 in door receipts.

¶ Madame Lillian Evanti, coloratura soprano of Washington, D. C., recently made her debut in Paris Grand Opera under the auspices of the Opera-Comique. Her splendid interpretation of *Lakme* was greeted with enthusiasm.

¶ Because of the persistent efforts of Maud Cuney Hare, colored children are to be enrolled at the South End Music School, Boston. Mrs. Hare has been appointed a member of the Council Board of the School.

¶ Louis Drysdale, a native of Jamaica, British West Indies, is a successful teacher of voice in Lodon, England. Mr. Drysdale has studied under some of the leading European masters.

¶ Colored American artists are being received enthusiastically in London, Paris and Berlin, where they are to be found as the featured attractions in many of the largest theatres. In London Florence Mills with her "Blackbird Revue" continues to draw crowds; in Paris at the Champs-Elysees Music Hall, a tabloid revue features Joe Alex, a dancer, with Vance Lowry and his Jazz Kings; in Berlin, Louis Douglas, Ruth Bayton and Josephine Baker, who is engaged in motion picture work, are doing admirable work.

¶ *Theater Arts* exhibited primitive African sculpture at the New Art Circle, New York City, from February 7 to March 5. The collection, formerly the property of a Belgian collector who spent twenty-five years assembling it, comprises nearly a thousand specimens and represents a complete picture of the art work of the Congo region.

¶ Madam Ernestine Shumann-Heink recently visited Bethune-Cookman College where she spoke at a special convocation in her honor and joined in the singing of the student body.

SOCIAL PROGRESS

¶ One of the most significant victories by Negroes in Los Angeles was won recently when beach property owned principally by colored people was ordered condemned for park purposes; this was stopped by a repeal of the ordinance.

¶ R. L. Andrews, a retired business man of Houston, Texas, recently bought a $30,000 home in one of the exclusive residential sections of Los Angeles.

¶ Approximately 1000 Negroes of Nashville, Tennessee, were made homeless as the result of the devastating flood which occurred the first part of January.

¶ The second Public Welfare Institute, Division of Negro Work, was held recently at The Winston-Salem Teacher's College, Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

¶ Among the two hundred Southern delegates at the recent Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. convention held at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, there were seventy-five Negroes. Several colored students were sent as delegates from Northern colleges. Dr. Mordecai Johnson of Howard University and Howard Thurman of Oberlin, Ohio, were platform speakers.

EDUCATION

¶ Solomon Porter Hood, who several months ago resigned his post as United States Minister to Liberia, has been appointed president of Campbell College, Jackson, Mississippi.

¶ The New Craig School, recently opened to colored children of New Orleans, is a modern and completely equipped building.

¶ Lincoln University at Jefferson City, Missouri, is now a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools as a teachers' college; it has been recognized as a class A college by the educational department of North Carolina and has been admitted to the Association of Colleges for Negro Youth.

RELIGION

¶ Four hundred colored children and adults were confirmed recently at St. Elizabeth's Roman Catholic Parish, Chicago.

¶ In January a joint commission of the A. M. E. and A. M. E. Z. Churches met in Washington, D. C., to consider further the organic union of these two bodies.

¶ The edifice of the famous Church of Our Father, Universalist, in Brooklyn, New York, has been purchased for $117,500 by the Nazarene Congregational Church of which Reverend Henry Proctor is pastor.

¶ The proposal of the Negro Corinthian Baptist church of Des Moines, Iowa, to buy the First Christian Science Church building for $55,000, has aroused the surrounding property owners to the extent that they have protested to the city council.

¶ The recent conferences of the C. M. E. Church in Georgia, presided over by Bishop R. A. Carter, subscribed over $5000 for the erection of a monument to the late Bishop L. H. Holsey, who was one of the founders of the C. M. E. Church and of Paine College, Augusta, Georgia.

PERSONAL

¶ To Ernest King, automobile mechanic of Los Angeles, goes the honor of having contributed the most outstanding improvement to radio science during the past year. His device, an automatic control for radios, has been sold to the Atwater-Kent Corporation on a royalty basis.

¶ Two Philadelphia banks have consolidated under the direction of Major R. R. Wright, president of the Citizens and Southern Bank and Trust Company, and J. C. Asbury, president of the Keystone Co-operative Bank. This merger is the first one of its kind in the history of the race.

¶ Myrna Harriet Moore, fifteen years old and a senior in the Wichita High School, Wichita, Kansas, is the first Negro student to be elected to the National Honor Society of that school.

¶ An enameling plant operated and owned by Negroes is located in Palmyra, New Jersey. The plant, which was put into operation about four years ago with a capital of $125,000, is progressing in quality and quantity of output.

¶ Thomas F. Parker, sixty-six years old, a well known white philanthropist of Greenville, South Carolina, is dead. He founded and maintained the Phillis Wheatley Community Center for colored people at Greenville.

¶ Lowell C. Wormley, a senior at Dartmouth College, was recently elected to the vice-presidency of the Beta Alpha Phi Biological Society and made chairman of the committee on speakers for the Society.

¶ William W. Glenn of Los Angeles recently resigned his post as Captain of Detectives after having served as a police officer for tweny-three years.

¶ Dr. M. W. Reddick of Americus, Georgia, is dead. Dr. Reddick was widely known. He was a teacher of ethics and theology at Morehouse College and pastor of Bethesda Baptist Church in Americus.

¶ For thirty years Henry MacBride of Austin, Texas, has held the job of porter in the State Attorney General's Department of the State Capitol.

¶ Dr. Moses M. W. Norman, fifty-eight, pastor of the Metropolitan Baptist Church of Washington, D. C., for the past twenty-one years, is dead. At the time of his death Dr. Norman was president of the Baptist Ministers' Conference and member of the Board of Education of the Baptist Church.

¶ A testimonial banquet at the Vincennes Hotel was tendered Edward H. Wright of Chicago, Illinios, recently. Mr. Wright is a member of the Illinois Commerce Commission, ward committeeman of the second ward and head of one of the largest colored political machines in the country.

¶ A tribute to Matthew Henson, the only civilized man living who has stood at the North pole, was broadcasted recently by Donald McMillan, Arctic explorer.

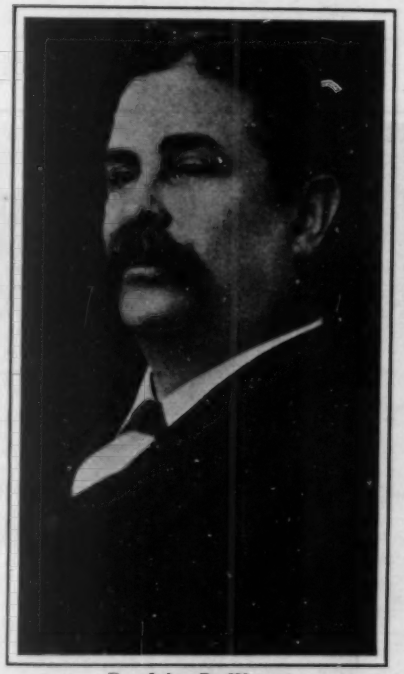
¶ The founder of Hartshorn Memorial College, Dr. Lyman Beecher Tefft, is dead. Dr. Tefft was connected with Hartshorn for twenty-nine years.

¶ We note the rise of Joseph M. Payton of Fort Madison, Iowa, from a laborer in 1923 to the man in charge of signal material and automatic train control supplies for the Eastern lines of the Atchinson, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway.

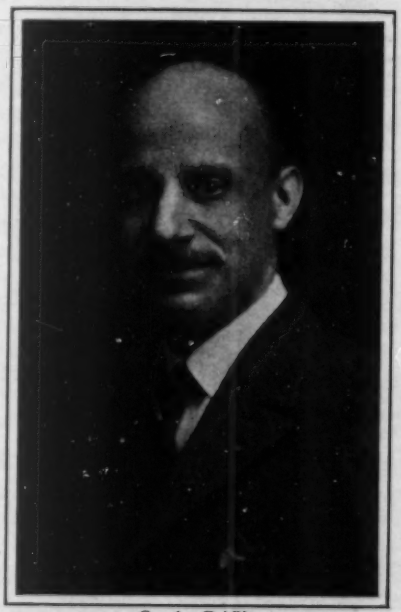
¶ For twenty-five years Dr. John P. Wragg has been associated with the work of Bible distribution among colored people in the South. Dr. Wragg, who is Dean of American Agency Secretaries of the American Bible Society, was born in Charleston, South Carolina, in 1855. He attended Avery Institute there and afterward studied at Claflin University and the Gammon Theological Seminary in Atlanta. He is a man of sterling character and fine executive ability.

¶ Charles A. Griffin, who has been active in the politics of Illinois for some time, was elected to the Illinois State Legislature in the recent election.

¶ George Frazier Miller is a radical clergyman with the courage of his convictions. He is the descendant of a Santo Domingan family who came to America during the Haitian insurrection. He was born at Aiken, South Carolina, in 1864, was graduated from Howard in 1888 and from the Episcopal General Theological Seminary in 1891. He has been the Rector of St. Augustine's P. E. Church of Brooklyn since 1896. He is a Socialist and was an outspoken opponent of the World War and of America's participation in it. When rich donors to the church tried to dictate his thinking he held to his opinions and at great personal sacrifice made his church independent. A few years ago his congregation purchased and moved into the beautiful edifice which stands on Lafayette Avenue, Brooklyn. Mr. Miller is a widower with three children.



Dr. John P. Wragg



C. A. Griffin

¶ Langston Hughes has been awarded the John Keats Prize for the best poem in the second fall number of *Palms*.

FRATERNITIES AND SORORITIES

¶ We have note of six of the chief Negro Greek letter fraternities and sororities whose annual mid-year conclaves were held during the holiday season. The *Alpha Phi Alpha* fraternity, the oldest of the group, held its 19th convention at Richmond, Virginia. Raymond W. Cannon of Minneapolis, Minnesota, was re-elected to serve his fourth term as National President and J. H. P. Evans of Atlanta, Georgia, was re-elected General Secretary for a third term. $1000 was appropriated for scholarships. The next place of meeting will be Cleveland, Ohio.

¶ The *Omega Psi Phi* fraternity held its 15th annual convention at Chicago, Illinois. J. S. McClain of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was elected Grand Basileus and W. H. Mazyck of Washington, D. C., was re-elected Grand Keeper of Records and Seals. The fraternity will meet in New York City next year.

¶ The annual convention of the *Kappa Alpha Psi* fraternity was held in Washington, D. C. Earl B. Dickerson of Chicago, Illinois, was re-elected Grand Polemarch and J. Ernest Wilkins, also of Chicago, was re-elected Grand Keeper of Records and Exchequer. During the coming year $350 in scholarships will be awarded as follows: $200 to any Kappa man attending the Universities of Michigan, Cornell or Aimes and $150 to a graduate of any high school who meets the requirements of the Scholarship Committee of the fraternity. The next place of meeting will be Detroit, Michigan.

¶ The 13th annual meeting of the *Phi Beta Sigma* fraternity was held at Greensboro, North Carolina. A. W. Mitchell of Washington, D. C., was elected General President and Thomas H. Reed of Portsmouth, Virginia, was elected General Secretary-Treasurer. An appropriation of $2000 was made for a committee to visit Haiti and the Virgin Islands, whose purpose is to report to the United States Government on conditions existing there. A special committee was appointed to co-operate with the N. A. A. C. P. The next session will be held in St. Louis, Missouri.

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Colored Sororities and Fraternities of the United States

Phi Beta Sigma
Kappa Alpha Psi

Alpha Phi Alpha

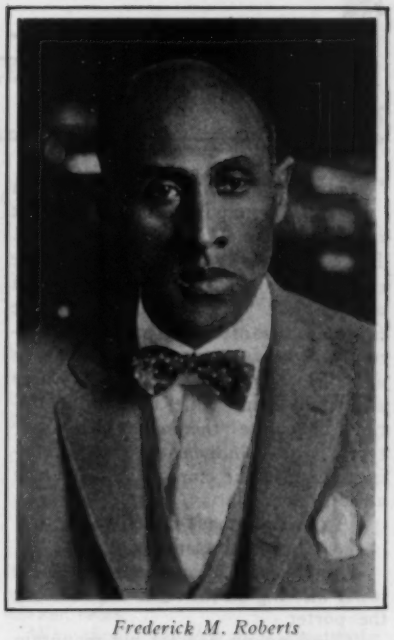
Omega Psi Phi
Delta Sigma Theta

William H. Fuller

¶ William H. Fuller, attorney-at-law, has been elected to the Pennsylvania State Legislature.

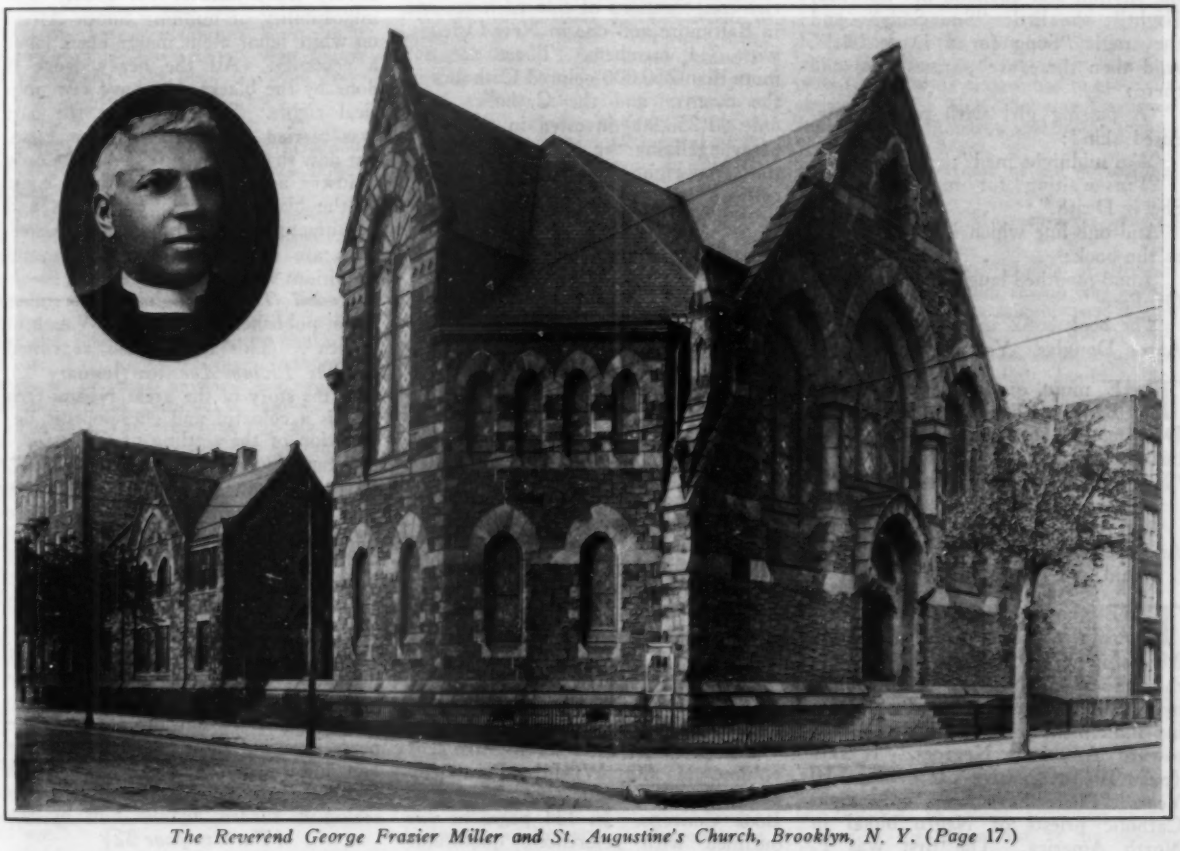
Warren B. Douglas

¶ Warren B. Douglas, who has practiced law in Illinois for eleven years, has been elected to the Illinois General Assembly for the fourth term.



Frederick M. Roberts

¶ Frederick M. Roberts has been re-elected to serve a fifth term in the California Legislature.



The Reverend George Frazier Miller and St. Augustine's Church, Brooklyn, N. Y. (*Page* 17.)

WHAT TO READ

THE outstanding book of the month is Langston Hughes' second book of poems, "Fine Clothes to the Jew". It is a beautifully printed little volume of eighty-nine pages issued by Knopf and has, like "The Weary Blues", "the fine qualities of force, passion, directness and sensitive perception". There are extraordinarily beautiful bits here and there and while the poems distinctly confine themselves to lowly types, it is the human feeling and longing there that he emphasizes. Despair at sunset:

"A good woman's cryin'
For a no-good man?"

The spittoon cleaner who puts his lowly offering on the altar of the Lord; the porter

"Climbing up a great big mountain
Of yes, sirs!"

The cry of the religious mourners:

"O, ma little Jesus,
Please reach out yo' hand."

Of individual poems one must read the rhythm and abandon of "Saturday Night"; the little "Sun Song"; and the tragic "Song for a Dark Girl". And then there are phrases here and there:

"A passing girl with purple powdered skin";

"I'm midnight mad";

"I'm waiting for ma mammy,—
She is Death."

And one line which is a sort of key to the book:

"Loud-mouthed laughers in the hands
Of Fate."

The book is $2 and has a jacket by Aaron Douglas. You should buy it.

THE muse of William Augustus Banks ("Beyond the Rockies", Dorrance) is not strong or striking, but it has merit.

"I put my hand on the breast of the sea
But the sea paid me no mind;
And because the sea didn't stop for me,
I said: 'O the sea is blind!' "

THE report of the Association Universitaire Catholique d' Aide aux Missions, on Catholic missions among the Indians and Negroes of Oklahoma, by Urbain de Hasque, contains a striking indictment of Catholic listlessness toward American Negroes. It says (page 104): "Native Clergy for 150 Years: There have been only *eight* Catholic priests of Negro blood in North America. The first was P. Augustus Tolton, ordained at Rome 1888, died in 1902; Joseph Plantvigne, ordained at Baltimore in 1907, died 1913; and the following six who are still alive: Randolph Uncles, ordained 1891, Professor at Epiphany College, Baltimore; John Dorsey, ordained 1902, Curate at St. Monica, Baltimore; Joseph Burgess, ordained 1907, Professor at the Apostolic School at Cornwells, Pennsylvania; Steven L. Theobold, ordained 1910, attached to the colored parish at St. Paul; Joseph John, ordained 1923; Norman Duckett, ordained February, 1926." There is one seminary for Negroes and this was not established until 1920. There are six colored schools in the South; two congregations of colored nuns, one in Baltimore and one in New Orleans, with 311 members. There are not more than 250,000 colored Catholics in the country and the Catholics have only $1,250,000 invested in the work of evangelizing the Negroes! Among the sixty-eight colored schools and colleges "there is not a single Catholic college".

Langston Hughes' new poems; Carter Woodson's "Mind of the Negro"; and magazine articles

CARTER WOODSON'S "The Mind of the Negro as Reflected in Letters Written during the Crisis 1800-1860", a thick volume of 671 pages, is another one of this scholar's invaluable contributions to Negro history. It costs $5, but it ought to be in most of our libraries. After all, what do even we who are dark know of what our fathers and grandfathers thought? And a white man said: "How much would I give if I could just get into the mind of that Negro for a few moments and see the world from his point of view." This book allows us all to do this for the first sixty years of the 19th century.

ANYONE who wants a short, fair statement of the problem of "The Negro in American Life" should buy Willis J. King's little seventy-five cent volume in the World's Friendship Series, published by the Methodist Book Concern. In 154 pages he has outlined with references, quotations and comments "an elective course for young people on Christian race relationship". The work seems thorough and well done.

In the Magazines

ARNOLD HOLLRIEGEL writes in *The Living Age,* January 1, 1927, on the "West Indian Pepper Pot". As the background he relates the story of the pepper pot, under which the fire never dies from one generation to the next. It is just a continuous simmering, stewing and mixing. Little by little the islands are becoming the home of a new European-veneered Negro race. The author says: "Europe is already dancing to the Negro's tom tom."

Colin Ross writes on "The Black and White of It". The article first appeared in the *Vossische Zeitung,* a Berlin liberal daily paper, October 16, 24, 26, 1926. It is translated in *The Living Age,* January 15, 1927. The impossibility of building South Africa on white labor alone makes black labor a necessity. All the heavy work is done by the blacks who have few political rights. Segregation in the past was carried out in the strictest form, but now that agriculture is not the only industry and opportunities have come to the blacks through the mines and manufactures, the editors and missionaries are making themselves felt and conditions are becoming better.

Round Table, England, December 1926, publishes "A Covered Wagon in Africa". This article was reprinted in *The Living Age* for January 15. It is the story of the great Ngami trek and is a colorful and encyclopedic description of the settling of Ghansi.

"Race Questions in South Africa", by Patric Duncan, appears in *Foreign Affairs,* January, 1927. The whole article is permeated with the white man's apprehension for the future of his own race in Africa. The non-European peoples in South Africa fall in three groups. First, the native population; second, the colored people of mixed race; third, the Asiatic population. The native population out-numbers the other two groups. The European invasion came about 270 years ago and since then the European has introduced his civilization but he is seeing it turned against him by the

(*Turn to page* 32)

THE FAR HORIZON

FROM OUR SCRAP BOOK

The New York *Nation's* Honor Roll for 1926 has these entries:

Clarence Darrow and Arthur Garfield Hays, for pleading and winning the cause of race justice in Detroit.

Walter F. White, for crossing the color line at the risk of his life and discovering the Aiken lynchers.

This ought to increase interest in this advertisement in the New York *Times:*

AUGUSTA—AIKEN

In Augusta, Ga., and Aiken, S. C., outdoor life prevails throughout the entire winter. These are healthful and delightful resorts for vacations during the winter months, amid ideal surroundings. Varied amusements invite open air life—golf, polo, tennis, motoring, riding and driving.

We clip from a contemporary:

My niece, a little girl of 5, had a Bible given her. She always thought she must entertain callers, and one day she said: "My mother is reading a book. The name of it is 'The Crisis'. And I have a new book. My book is about Jesus Crisis."

The Commission on Inter-racial Cooperation of Atlanta issued a leaflet which says:

A college student gravely informed me the other day that God tutned one of Noah's sons black and sentenced his descendants to perpetual servitude. He spent a half hour searching the Bible to prove it. He didn't find it, of course, for the Bible says nothing of the kind. There is no suggestion that God cursed anybody or that anybody was turned black. (Read Genesis 9 and see for yourself). The scientists tell use that our color variations are due to the influence of climate and environment working through long ages. Probably we were all red at first; the name Adam means "red earth", you know. Then those of us who settled in the North faded out, while those farther South grew darker.

The following paragraph is clipped from a Virginia newspaper:

"A Negro in Pittsburgh won a parole for his youngest son when he told the court 'this is the best of my 35 children'. The flower of this large flock pleaded guilty to larceny. If this theft involved a chicken roost, it is not difficult to understand the father's high estimation of his son."

It is the first time in many years that we have seen that stale jest in print, and we had hoped that it was a thing of the past. Doubtless the scribbler who wrote the paragraph above quoted meant no offense, but all such jests naturally are offensive to honest and respectable colored people, for they are a slur at the race, and there is nothing funny in a jest that gives offense. Real politeness is consideration for the feelings of others, and colored people are as much entitled as any other people to that sort of consideration. There is no excuse for referring to them as "niggers", or even as "darkies"; no excuse for employing any term of designation which is derogatory to the race or offensive to colored men and women of refined sensibilities. There is no color line in manners.

Newport News, Virginia, *Daily Press.*

Panama, C. Z., 1923.—"Native side" of city. Mid-afternoon. Myself stopping two American privates in the narrow winding main street to ask the way to a shop. Cordial greetings, naive interest, sidewalk chat of several minutes. Both of them from Iowa. Offer to guide me to the place. We start along abreast. Twice I fall a step behind to let natives pass us on sidewalk. Notice privates elbow passers into the roadway. On my third attempt, one says, giving me a friendly tip: "Oh, don't get out of the way for them. We never do that for them lazy niggers down here."

The *New Masses.*

Just to show the folly to which silly race discrimination can go was exemplified at the Y. M. C. A. the other day when a group of boys of all nations from the Church of All Nations, composed of Italians, Mexicans, Negroes, Japanese, and other nationalities were invited to that institution on one of its functions. They got along all right until the matter of a little swim in the pool was the order of the hour. Then some pygmy representative of the great white race got busy and excluded the Negroes from swimming with those of the invited group. If that grade of slavery is a symptom of white superiority socially or otherwise, we Negroes don't want it. Fortunate was it that Dr. G. Bromley Onom, the pastor of the Church of All Nations, got through the Methodist Preachers Meeting a resolution condemning the act as brutal and un-Christian and demanding that Methodist Churches withdraw their support from that institution until a more sensible treatment of all race groups can be maintained. Isn't it strange that some white people of average intelligence are favorable to such ignorant, backward southern nonsense and brutal discourtesy.

From California.

VOTES FOR BLACK FOLK

Nobody, not even the people of the South, will seriously contend with Senator Caraway of Arkansas, that the right of the Negroes in his state is uncontested.

If what he says is so, why is it that but eight per cent of the population in Arkansas votes and in Mississippi the percentage is one point less?

To say that the polls are as free and safe for Arkansans as are the polls for Massachusetts people is going a long distance. Twenty-nine per cent of our population votes.

Why should the Arkansas senator be so shocked on account of the questionable method by which Mr. Vare of Pennsylvania and Mr. Smith of Illinois secured their senatorial credential when it is openly admitted in his own state that, for obvious reasons, Negroes do not vote?

The Arkansas senator may be right in his position on the Vare and Smith cases and what is here said is not to be taken as a defense of their claims, but to get right down to brass tacks, Senator Caraway has no more right to a seat in the senate than Smith or Vare.

This is just a case of the pot calling the kettle black.

Pittsfield, Massachusetts, *Eagle.*

Former Governor Dunne of Illinois has discovered another reason why Smith should be allowed to take his seat in the senate. He says the entire question of state rights is at stake. To refuse to accept Smith's credentials would be to destroy the last vestige of state sovereignty, he declares.

He furthermore points out that a refusal to accept Smith's credentials would establish a precedent dangerous to the Democratic party in the South, for, following that precedent, the senate might refuse to accept the credentials of any Democrat elected in any southern state in which the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution gives the Negro the right of suffrage, alleging as a reason for such refusal that Negroes had not been permitted to exercise that right.

Blackwell, Oklahoma, *Tribune.*

JUSTICE

Jake Hilton, Negro, of Jasper county, was pardoned on Wednesday by Governor Henry L. Whitfield, according to information just given out at the offices

of the state prison Thursday afternoon.

Hilton was sentenced three years in August, 1925, for grand larceny.

In giving his reason for granting the pardon, Governor Whitfield said: "This case grew out of a charge of stealing cotton for which this man was convicted. A letter from the person owning the said cotton states that it now develops that Hilton did not commit the act, but it was done by a white man or men, and he has been paid for the cotton which was stolen. At the time of the trial the accused Negro did not testify because of it being dangerous for him to do so."

Jackson, Mississippi, *Daily News.*

On December 8th a Negro man, whose name was not reported to the executive department, is alleged to have shot and killed a white man in a little community in Harris county, near West Point. A gang of less than a dozen white men, claiming they were merely going to locate the Negro, who had escaped and was hiding out, and whose intention was to find the Negro and turn him over to the sheriff of the county, started out as a self-constituted posse.

During the night they stopped at the hut of a Negro eight miles from West Point and awakened the occupants. Demanding that they be allowed to search the house, they were admitted, and found that the Negro boy, Ransom, aged 14 years old, was the only male occupant of the cabin. Ransom joined the men in their search of the place, according to the story told to the governor's office by the sheriff. In fact, Ransom held the lamp so the white men could make their search under the beds, and through the cabin.

When every corner of the Negro cabin had been examined, the man wanted was not found, and the gang was about to depart, when one of the number turned to the boy, Ransom, and made the remark: "We've just got to get one nigger, anyhow," and fired on the Negro lad, killing him.

Columbus, Georgia, *Inquirer-Sun.*

Congress should pass the anti-lynching law pending before it. The lynching of Negroes is a national disgrace. In the South it is engaged in as part of the policy of "keeping the blacks in their place". Negroes in the South are regarded as inferior to whites, no matter how depraved, cruel and useless a white may be. Any white man, they believe, is better than a black or colored one.

The idea is wickedly and cruelly false. It therefore produces nothing but wickedness and cruelty. And in doing it brings world-wide disgrace upon the United States.

The South will not correct the evil itself. It becomes necessary, therefore, to make the crime of lynching a Federal concern. It becomes the more necessary to do this because there have been incidents of lynching in the North and the steady migration of Negroes from the South appears to be encouraging the evil.

The crime of lynching must be abolished from America. Since the South, the chief offender, will not stop it, the nation through Congress must assume the responsibility.

Philadelphia, Pa., *Daily News.*

"ALL IN A DAY'S WORK"

I began the work of yesterday by eating breakfast at the restaurant in the Union Station, the only place in the city and probably the only place in the state or the entire South where white people will satisfy a Negro's hunger by serving him meals in the same restaurant and at the same table where whites are served. I ate my breakfast freely like other hungry men with a white man on one side and a white woman on the other, neither of whom I knew or cared to know or expected to see again and neither of whom knew or cared to know or expected to see me again. Aren't our white people silly along some lines?

In the evening I was the guest of the executive officer, a southern white man, of the only regular organized colored boy scout troops in the United States at the only colored scout camp in the United States. We went out to the camp on an Inter-urban car. On approaching the station my southern white friend remarked that although I was his guest and although we were engaged in practically the same work and had much to talk about, we could not ride together for I must take the "Jim Crow" compartment. "It's a darn shame," said he, "that we can not ride together. Of all the silly laws this 'Jim Crow' law is the silliest," a sentiment to which I readily and heartily agreed.

At the camp I was served supper with my white friend and at the evening camp fire I listened to an address of the executive officer of the white troops and to a white scout who had come from a nearby white scout camp to sound and explain the numerous bugle calls in the routine of the day. When it came my turn to speak, I held up to these black scouts the records of such men as Roland Hayes, Booker Washington, Prof. Carver, Dr. DuBois, and others.

The colored boys related this story to me: In the afternoon they had been out on a long hike and in returning passed the white scout camp. These white youngsters signalled, "Who are you?" The response came back, "Colored Scouts". The white scouts signalled again, "Come over and visit us". The colored scouts went over and spent a half hour yelling and singing and talking with their white fellow scouts. These southern white boys observing that the Negro scouts were tired and dusty from their hike said, "Come on and take a swim in our pool". The colored boys responded and had the swim of their lives. The white scouts served the colored scouts with candies and sent a supply to the colored boys who remained at the camp.

On my return to the city my friend said, "I'll be darned if I don't ride with you in the 'Jim Crow' car and if the conductor makes any objection, I'll cuss him out". And ride with me he did. We compromised by riding in the white smoker compartment with none to molest or make afraid.

Can you beat it?

——— ———.

GEORGIA

"In country districts children were frequently kept from school to work on the farms, and the school attendance law offered no way to combat this custom. One school superintendent stated that work was obligatory for all the children in tenant families who could follow a plow, as this was the arrangement of the tenant with his landlord, who otherwise would not hire him. . . .

"Both in the country and in the towns it was reported that many parents were so shiftless that they did not care whether their children received an education or not. Being illiterate themselves, they did not appreciate the benefits of an education.

"The attendance problem among Negro children was complicated by the fact that often the school was absent from the child, rather than the child from the school. Most of the schools for Negro children were entirely inadequate and poorly equipped and staffed. It was said that as a rule the parents were anxious to have their children attend, almost the only effort to keep the Negro child in school being made by members of his own race. If all the Negro children of compulsory school age were compelled to go to school there would be no place to put them, as there were not sufficient accommodations for those actually attending."

(Federal Children's Bureau. *Dependent and Delinquent Children in Georgia.* 1926.)

WAGES

The Maryland Inter-racial Commission reports these wages for school teachers in the state:

Elementary Schools	White	Colored
3rd grade	$600- 650	$320- 450
2nd grade	750- 850	400- 600
1st grade	950-1250	520- 850
High School		
Assistant	$1150-1350	$640- 950
Principal	1150-2150	760-1300

"The Commission recommends the principle of equal pay, grade by grade, as shown by the standards of school classification and teachers certificates toward attaining this standard without regard to color. The State of Maryland should proceed promptly and vigorously in this matter. Well trained, efficient teachers with experience can hardly be secured or retained in any other way. It costs the colored teacher as much as one of any other group to secure an education and to live while teaching school. We request that the Board of Education, the Governor and the Legislature take this matter into immediate consideration."

ENGLISH

Commenting on the fact mentioned by that famous British newspaper of India, the "Pioneer", that the way educated

(*Turn to page* 30)

Football

(*Continued from page* 8)

standing players increases each year as foot ball gets firmer hold upon Negro colleges. We believe the men placed on the First Team at the head of this article would come out victors in any gridiron engagement that might be staged against any Negro college eleven.

AT end we have Turner, West Virginia, and Williams, Langston, experienced wing men and backs. Both are excellent snatchers of passes, fast and hard to stop. Turner played at both quarter back and end for his school and shone brilliantly in both positions. But it was as end, in 1926, that Turner played his best game. Quick to get through the enemy's line, he often advanced thirty and forty yards before the ball was passed and he seldom failed to hold the sphere when he could get his hands on it. Often, too, he raced several yards after a catch before he was downed.

Williams was a terror in every game in which he was a participant. His running, catching of passes, tackling and kicking, brought his opponents to make efforts to stop him wherever he played. He was a tower of strength in every engagement and he usually made gains whenever called on.

For tackles Miller, North Carolina A. & T., and Lamar, Atlanta, are chosen. They had no equals during the year. Both are deadly tacklers, both are line smashers, both can block superbly and both know the game of breaking up the enemy's plays. Defensively and offensively they outplayed all tackles who faced them.

Jennings, Paul Quinn, and Redd, Wiley, were the best guards of the 1926 season. Every member of their enemies' teams knew they were in the game. They made themselves felt on every play. Their ability to dig deep into the enemy's territory on both defense and offense brought victory to their teams in many contests.

The greatest center Negro foot ball has seen for many years was Buchanan, Wilberforce. Roving here and there, he frequently mowed down the ball carrier when the efforts of all other members of his team had failed to stop the enemy's advance. He played winning foot ball every week-end. As a passer back, he was both brilliant and brainy. His passes never went wide of their mark. He could be depended upon to give his best on every play and his fighting spirit instilled pep into all players who were members of the Wilberforce varsity. He was everywhere during the game and always where he was needed.

C. Smith, Howard, Ritchie, Wilberforce, Stevenson, Tuskegee, and Coles, Howard, constituted the strongest backfield in Negro college foot ball. All four are great runners, kickers, passers, pass catchers and tacklers. C. Smith was Howard's most used and most dependable half back. He always "delivered the goods" when he "carried the mail". He can hit a line hard and with telling effect and he can make his way through the narrowest opening. In the open he runs like "a scared deer".

Ritchie is a power at all angles of the game. At carrying the ball, at kicking and at catching passes, he had no peer. Dodging, ducking, twisting and squirming, he went through the line of the opposition for gain after gain. His goal kicking caused his enemies to respect him, for most of his attempts at field goals counted for scores. On defense he was a demon at tackling and bringing down passes.

Stevenson was the mainstay of Tuskegee in almost every game and the South's outstanding backfield man. He can be relied upon to make the almost impossible and the most unexpected play when the game is close and the team needs encouragement and inspiration. Ripping the line, plunging into the enemy's camp, darting into holes, escaping tacklers and making substantial gains, he won the admiration of foot ball fans everywhere. His opponents often concentrated their stiffest resistance upon him, but he fought his hardest and his best when the fighting of the enemy was most stubborn.

Coles possesses an almost unerring judgment in unraveling his opponents' plays. He exhibits the same sort of ability in planning attacks upon the enemy, while his educated toe seldom fails to add the point after touchdown. Coles is a fine ball carrier, a brilliant snatcher of passes and a dangerous open field runner. He is Howard's outstanding star and the greatest quarter back of the season. Brainy, cautious, determined and cool, he outgeneraled and outplayed every quarter back against whom he performed.

THE players on the second and third teams were second and third only to the men named on the teams above them. Russ, Shields, McPherson, Parker, Epps, Williams, Joyner, Branch make splendid backfields and if they played together would give their enemy much to worry about. The linemen are splendid players who would perform wonderful foot ball stunts in every contest.

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Graduates given high ranking by greatest northern universities. Debating, Y. M. C. A., athletics, all live features.

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N. A. A. C. P. Notes

(*Continued from page* 10)

Spingarn Medal

THE Spingarn Medal Award Committee, through its Chairman, Bishop John Hurst, urges the recommendation of all colored citizens who during the year 1926 achieved greatest distinction in any honorable field of human endeavor. The Committee wishes to state again that any person has the right to make a nomination. Already a number of persons have been recommended but the Committee is anxious to have as extensive a list of nominees for consideration as possible. Recommendations giving the qualifications of the person nominated should be addressed to Bishop John Hurst, Chairman Spingarn Medal Award Committee, 69 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Unfinished Masterpieces

(*Continued from page* 14)

you talked and you replied, "Once, I sorter wanted to write books. Once, I uster read a heaps. See times when I was broke and nobody would stake me for a game. I'd lay around and read. I've read the Bible through and through and every Police Gazette I could lay my hands on. Yes, suh, I've read a'heap. And I've wished a lot'er times I'd sense enough to write a book."

Lump of mud. Containing the you, the splendid artist in you, the soul of you, the unfinished you in the ungainly lump of you, awaiting the gathering-up to be moulded anew into the finished masterpiece.

What a day! Here is my friend at whose fire-side I have lingered beholding Mr. William Williams, great lump of mud. To be sure, she also is an unfinished production. Though it is apparent that the Master had all but done when she slipped from his hands and dropped to earth to lie groping like the rest of us thereon.

Let us sit here together, friend, and enjoy this day.

I shall try to discover what recent gift you have given to the poor the while you are quietly stitching upon the garments, linens and scarlet, with which to clothe your household. Sit here and smile with the welcoming light in your eyes, knowing that your door is open to such as William Williams and Dora Johns, the Dora who is become as the mud beneath one's feet. Kind mistress of the widely opened door where white and black, rich and poor, of whatever caste or creed may enter and find comfort and ease and food and drink.

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James Edward Mason, Financial Secretary

Let me sit awhile beside you upon this day, hearkening again to your simple philosophy. A philosophy stirred with the spoon of kindliness and seasoned with the essence of love. Very simple indeed and yet sufficient to sustain you in every trial and of such resilience it rebounds in the presence of tribulations unto itself and findeth peace.

What is it you say to back-biters and gossips, all those who wrongfully accuse you? "Everything will come out in the wash."

And when a haughty one is being superior? "Birds fly high but they come down to get water."

And when something or someone has failed you in duty or in word? "Every tub has to stand on its own bottom."

And your simple panacea for intolerance? "Man is 'apt' to fall as sparks to go upwards."

What boon would I not forswear to sit beside you in reality, my friend, who boasts no art save the art of friendliness?

Friendliness encased in a crust of black mud, awaiting also the Master's final touch, when all outer semblances and material hindrances shall fade into nothingness and His gifts, be they the one talent or the five, shall be poured into His scales.

So thinking, retrospection suddenly done with, retracing with leaps and bounds the journey through the fields of memory, I arrive at the stile of the present. Whereon there is a sign as vividly lined as the present is drawn from the past and the future from the present. Quite plainly it reads:

"We one and all are God's unfinished shapes, ungainly lumps of mud, waiting—waiting to be moulded anew into the finished masterpiece."

The Little Page

(*Continued from page* 15)

So Harold rushed eagerly from home with his kite and March Wind met him and away they hurried. For a while they had a joyous time. Then something occurred. Just beneath the hill on which Harold and the Wind were at play a number of boys appeared with kites of all sizes. March Wind began to think what fun it would be to toy with all those kites at once. And he forgot poor Harold whose kite became entangled in the branches of an elm tree. That ended the joy.

Harold marched gloomily home. But at the gate he found a boy holding a kite string in one hand.

"My kite's gone over in your yard —guess it's your yard", said the boy. "If you help me get that kite out, tell

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you what I'll do. You can take turns flying it."

And again Harold was happy. He and the strange boy soon freed the kite string from a garage hinge on which it had caught and away they ran to play again with merry March Wind.

Am I Too Late?

JESSE TEMPLE, JR.
St. Louis, Missouri.

ALTHOUGH of but a tender age,
Please put me on the LITTLE PAGE.

Indeed it is a wish of mine
To be the children's VALENTINE.

Bold Friend March

COME right on in now, Bold Friend March!
I hear you scratching at my door,
Using the vine against my porch
To be your knocker and what for?

What do you think we have inside—
Some catkins you could toss about?
Or chewinks that we wish to hide,
But which you think should be let out?

Perhaps you've heard of March hares mad
Hidden beneath my bed,
Or green and purple kites you'd like
To toss above one's head.

Kingfisher might have said, I guess,
When you were stirring up the creeks,
That I'd run off with all the cress,
Enough to last for weeks and weeks.

There's something you are looking for—
Shaking my casement glass,
Beating the vines against my door—
Or otherwise you'd pass.

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The Baby Lambkins and Mother Sheep

(An Early March Morning)

THE baby lambkins and mother sheep
Trot by the little streams,
Over the earth all white with frost,
Twinkling with soft sunbeams.

Where are you leading all those lambs?
Tell us, sheep mother, please.
Off to a frozen stubble feast
Under some leafless trees?

Yet brisk and happy, on you prance
Downhill this morning early.
These streams so blue must make you glad,
So must the skies all pearly.

Along the Color Line

(Continued from page 17)

¶ The 8th annual convention of the *Delta Sigma Theta* sorority was held in Cincinnati, Ohio. Ethel LaMay Calimese of Cincinnati, Ohio, was elected President and L. Beatrice Morton, also of Cincinnati, was elected Secretary. Among the outstanding features of this convention was a radio program given by the sorority. Dorothy Pelham Beckley of Washington, D. C., the outgoing President, spoke on the ideals of the sorority as embodied in high scholarship, noble womanhood and worth-while achievement. An appropriation was made in response to the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History whose purpose is to study the Negro's contribution to civilization. The next meeting will be held in Washington.

¶ The *Alpha Kappa Alpha* sorority held in its 9th annual Boulé in Columbus, Ohio. Pauline Sims-Puryear of Petersburg, Virginia, was re-elected Basileus and Ruth Weatherless of Washington, D. C., was re-elected Grammateus. The regular national scholarship of $1000 is to be offered for 1927. There is to be a special meeting during the summer of 1928 in California. The next meeting will be held in Chicago, Illinois.

WEST AFRICA

¶ There is a report of racial troubles from the island of S. Thomé, West Africa, in connection with the election of members of the Supreme Colonial Council.

¶ Fourah Bay College, the first University in West Africa, recently celebrated its centenary. The program included a public welcome to deputations from England and visitors from other Colonies, convocation, conferences and sports.

¶ Tufuhin of Besease, Chief of Gomoa Brofu of the central province

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LANGSTON HUGHES

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By the Author of THE WEARY BLUES

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   Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man—*Johnson*—3 copies.
   The Band of Gideon and other Poems — *Cotter* — 2 copies.
4. A graduate of a western university (A.B.) wishes to teach English, modern languages and education in high school or college.

KRIGWA, 1927

THE CRISIS Magazine is offering prizes in Literature and Art for the year 1927 amounting to more than Two Thousand Dollars. All entrants must be of Negro descent. All matter entered for these prizes must be in THE CRISIS office on or before June 15, 1927. The awards will be announced October 24, 1927. All persons who propose to enter the contest must send a stamped addressed envelope for entry blanks.

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of Eshon Weldu, is dead. He was the spokesman of the Aborigines Rights Protection Society when the Colonial Office Delegation visited in 1925.

¶ Among the recent appointments to the Legislative Council of Gold Coast for one year are A. W. Kojo Thompson of Accra, E. J. Brown of Cape Coast, G. A. Grant of Sekondi and Nana Ofori Atta of the Western Province.

¶ The announcement has been made that the English Government has decided to disband the West Indian Regiment which has been doing service on the West Coast for the last hundred years.

LIBERIA

¶ C. D. B. King has been nominated to serve a third term as President of

Miss Myrna H. Moore (*Page* 16)

Liberia. Superintendent A. N. Yancy of Cape Palmas has been nominated for Vice-President.

¶ A Spanish air squadron en route to the Spanish possession of Fernando Po landed recently in Monrovia to pay a visit to President King.

¶ The Loan Agreement between the Liberian Government and a group of New York bankers has been ratified by the Liberian Legislature. The loan, which is $5,000,000, will be used to carry out certain public works.

¶ About four thousand men are being employed by The Firestone Company at their various stations throughout Liberia. It is reported that Mr. Firestone will train a local clerical force.

¶ An arbitration convention for the settlement of disputes between Liberia and the United States has been ratified by both Governments.

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1 Vanishing Cream, 1 Complexion Soap, 1 Skin Beautifier, 1 Face Powder, value $1.25, 1 Free Talc. All for $1.

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EAST AFRICA

¶ A Nyasaland judge sentenced a native to three years hard labor for taking into the country copies of the *Workers Herald*. This native paper is edited at Johannesburg by Clement Kadalie, National Secretary of the non-European Labour Movement in South Africa.

¶ Elections for the European, Indian and Arab seats in the legislature of Kenya took place in January. No natives are represented.

¶ A Kenya election manifesto asks for the union of Kenya, Tanganyika, Uganda and Nyasaland and, in the future, the two Rhodesias.

¶ In Uganda the Butaka land dispute has attracted much attention. The peasants declare their land sacred and unsalable, but the land lords, with the English behind them, have distributed much of the land and now the English "refuse to intervene".

THE SUDAN

¶ The English have recommended to the King of Egypt the appointment of Sir John L. Maffey as the Governor-General of the Sudan.

¶ Osman Abu Bakr Digna, the famous Sudanese leader, who led the rebellion against England in 1883 as the right hand of the Mahdi, is dead. He has been imprisoned since the battle of Fashoda in 1899.

¶ Gordon Memorial College is the center of native education in the Sudan. It is a secondary and industrial school for boys, run on the plan of the English public school. There is a girl's training college at Omdurmans. The annual meeting of the trustees of Gordon College has just been held in London.

SOUTH AFRICA

¶ A representative body known as the Joint Council of the Europeans and Natives, under the chairmanship of Howard Pim, has been sitting to consider native bills introduced into Parliament. They are especially condemning the recent Land Bill.

¶ The industrial and commercial union, a gigantic trade union with a membership of nearly 50,000, has been organized in South Africa.

¶ Kadalie, the leader of this trade union, has been arrested by the Government and natives and Indians are uniting for his defense.

¶ Portugal has announced that none of her colonies is going to be exchanged or sold.

¶ Stone implements have been discovered in the Zuzuland high veld which proves the existence of six different

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cultures in the stone age. Some of them were twenty-four feet below the surface.

GENERAL

¶ An International Institute of African Languages and Cultures has been formed in London with representatives of the learned societies of France, Belgium, Italy, Germany, Austria and Sweden and leading missionary societies. Sir Frederick Lugard is chairman of the Executive Council. Among other persons interested are Professor Alice Verner, J. H. Oldham and Dr. D. Westermann.

¶ A memorial to William Wilberforce, the great emancipator, has been unveiled at Wimbledon, England.

¶ A West Indian conference has been held at the Moses Chambers of the House of Lords, London. The membership was selected by the English Government.

EUROPE

¶ The four oppressed minority groups in the United States to be represented at the Brussels Conference are the Negroes, the Central Americans, the Chinese and the Hindus. There will also be representatives from Mexico, Cuba, Porto Rico, Venezuela and Peru.

The Far Horizon

(*Continued from page* 22)

Indians speak and write English puts to shame the average Englishman in his rendering of the language of a country other than his own, the new constructive Socialist review, the "London Weekly", sensibly remarks that those who have heard Tagore, Lord Sinha, Mr. Shastri, the Maharaja of Alwar and other notable Indians address meetings have been lost in admiration of their fluency and correctness, the impression being enhanced by the natural dignity—and sometimes the vivacity—of the lecturers. "That certain queer phrases have crept into, and apparently remain rooted in the language as spoken by some Indians less highly trained, is hardly remarkable, and we need not take more notice of it than we do of the rather amusing spelling in certain Indian papers. The interesting fact is that we can converse with our visitors from India with perfect ease—a great help to understanding—and generally with much enlightenment, be it said." I beg leave to move that the word "African" be substituted for "Indian" in the foregoing and then to be allowed to hail the sentiment with cheers.

London, England, *West Africa.*

THE WHITE MAN'S BURDEN

I suggest that the first question to be asked is what is the European doing in West Africa? and that it is best in answering the question to be frank. We went there, and are there today, to keep other Europeans out, because the coun-

tries making up British West Africa are considered sufficiently valuable to justify the expenditure of life, money and effort. Civilization, religion, education, are all secondary considerations; were there not a large population and vast, wealthy countries at stake, there would be neither men nor money coming from Europe for work in West Africa. . . .

If, then, it be conceded that the European is in West Africa for the good of Europe, and, let us even admit, of Africa and the world generally, is there any special virtue attached to the individual who goes there? The reply to this must be in the negative, for I do not propose to take into account the comparative few who believe they go to West Africa from purely idealistic motives. I say "believe" purposely, for there is no power on earth so strong as self-deception. My reason for asking this question is that a large proportion of the Europeans I met in West Africa appeared to be under the impression that they accomplished a kind of sacrifice in going there; even if not for West Africa's good, then the act was a self-immolation on the altar of the British Empire.

"Service" in London *West Africa.*

THE FUTURE COLOR LINE

The *African World,* London, reports a South African speech:

The place which the black races are to take in the future development of the world was the subject of an important lecture by Professor Edgar H. Brookes, of the Transvaal University College, which he delivered at the Workers' Hall, Johannesburg, to a mixed audience of natives and Europeans.

"Sheer weight of numbers demands that the non-white races should have a big say, not only in their own government, but in the government of the world", said Professor Brookes at one stage of his lecture. The non-white races were pressing forward their claim to a greater share of the world's surface, and the world grew smaller every day, and South Africa was not cut off from the rest of the world. "The way in which the world solves its color problem," said the Professor, "must be the way in which South Africa will solve her problem." Professor Brookes urged that the natives should strive to be worthy of equal rights. They should deserve success, even though they could not command it. The natives should not resort to violence, for they would assuredly be beaten.

Professor Brookes said that at present the black man was definitely inferior to the white man. Despite that fact the white people had no right to withhold from the non-white races the opportunity to show whether they could rival them. If science could prove that the black races were permanently incapable of being civilized, then the whites would be justified in treating the native races as subordinate peoples. There was but little doubt, however, that individual members of the black races were capable of beating the white man at his own work,

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but whether it was true of the race as a whole only time would show.

"Three out of every four of the citizens of the British Empire were Indians," said Prof. Brookes. It was not a white Empire, but it was an Empire based on white supremacy. Numerical superiority demanded that the non-white races should have a big say in their own government. They were pressing forward this claim, which they must achieve by developing themselves to such a point that no man could possibly deny it.

Referring to the Native Bills, Prof. Brookes said that one point in their favor was that for the first time both the white races of South Africa, the English and Dutch, had combined to say that there must be in Parliament representatives of the natives. This was a significant and encouraging beginning, but with good leaders and by developing their own resources the black races could get more.

What to Read

(*Continued from page* 20)

natives. The issues between the whites and the colored and the Asiatics are not serious. The colored peoples are regarded as European and the immigration of the Asiatic has been completely stopped since 1913 by the Immigrants Regulation Act. The real issue is with the native.

Current History for February asks "Is America an Idealistic Nation?" The fact is brought out that slavery was an economic question and not one of sympathy and idealism.

In the same number Franz Boaz exposes "Fallacies of Racial Inferiority". Mr. Boaz writes of the effect of intermarriage and racial heredity, selection and physique, the influence of environment and fallacious intelligence tests and attacks almost every "Anglo-Saxon" idea of racial inferiority.

In *The Living Age* for February 1, Pedro d'Alba writes on Mexico and Nicaragua. The article first appeared in the *Universal*, a Mexican independent daily and presents the present difficulties of the United States, Mexico and Nicaragua from the Mexican standpoint. Mr. D'Alba says that the press of the United States and the present rulers of Nicaragua are untruthful when they accuse Mexico of organizing military expeditions.

Leland Hall writes in *Harper's* for February a vivid description of the virulent drowsiness of the Sahara desert under the title, "Salt Comes to Timbuctoo".

Rudolph Fisher scores another success in his story, "The Promised Land", which appears in the *Atlantic Monthly* for January. It is a well-written human interest tale of a small southern Negro family which, after its transplantation to Harlem and its subsequent financial and moral emancipation, finds happiness and grief and forgetfulness.

Postscript
by W. E. B. DuBois

Winter

THE Artist who paints the landscape of Manhattan has shown a divine sense of beauty this winter. His grey and dun fall whitened for Christmas and then in January reveled in an old-fashioned snow-storm. The wind wailed and howled; the frost nipped and the snow swirled into great curved drifts. The thaw was balmy and less dirty than usual and then again of a sudden one night all the world was done in glistening silver —trees and walks and clouds. Then came the rain, the dark, warm, slow rain with soft grey fold on fold. I know the golden sun of West Africa at Christmas time and the warm blue of California. But I think Manhattan in its canyons was very beautiful this winter.

The Children's Bureau

AMERICAN Negroes ought to support in every possible way the continuation and broadening of the Children's Bureau in the United States Department of Labor at Washington. During 1926 nearly a million babies and children under school age and one hundred eighty thousand expectant mothers were reached by efforts carried on in forty-three states in co-operation with this Bureau. The Maternity and Infancy Act through which Federal aid is given to states for improving the health of mothers and children was passed in 1921 for five years and a bill extending it two years has passed the house and is before the Senate. It would be a calamity if this bill should fail.

Pickens' Progress

THE work of William Pickens during his short stay in Europe has been astonishing for its variety and influence. Birmingham, England, was "delighted with William Pickens"; Manchester says that "he spoke well and answered questions better"; Bristol pronounces his visit an unqualified success. He carried through an extraordinary program of forty-one meetings in England during seventeen days, traveling 3,756 miles. In Berlin, Germany, he spoke in the former House of Peers and was reported at length in the daily press; in Russia, Mr. Pickens talked with President Kalinin, with Trotsky, Srednik and others. In Belgium, he helped in the organization of the Congress of the League Against Colonial Oppression which convened in February. This Congress was attended by representatives of nearly all the oppressed peoples and Mr. Pickens was put in general charge of the Negroes of the world. This journey by a representative of the N. A. A. C. P. has been a triumphal progress and has done much to make known the situation of American Negroes to the world.

Lincoln, Fisk and Howard

REGULAR readers of THE CRISIS could scarcely have misunderstood our reference to Lincoln University under "liabilities" in the annual "Black Man's Balance". We had of course reference to the indictment so ably expressed by one of Lincoln's greatest graduates in the August CRISIS, 1926, in which reference is made to an editorial in the May CRISIS. It is gratifying to know that the quiet persistent fight by the Lincoln alumni is bringing change and that the new president takes his chair with their approval and consent.

Fisk which we listed in the same sense as a "liability" in January, 1925, is moving forward under its new progressive president. We learn that "the General Education Board, the Carnegie Corporation, the American Missionary Association, Paul Cravath and other friends of Fisk University have agreed to give $214,000 toward helping Fisk out of debt, meet its current expenses for this year, do a minimum of repairs to the buildings and thus secure the million dollars of endowment subscribed two years ago.

"This $214,000 is given conditionally on our raising $100,000 from the colored people of America and their friends."

Here is the time for every Fiskite and every forward looking black to give "'til it hurts". The sincerity of our demand for rights and reform can only be proven by our willingness to help bear the burden of its cost.

Happy Howard! It has no news these days. It is just educating youth.

A New Civil War

I HAVE always believed that when the definite open split between liberal and bourbon came in the South, the day of real emancipation for black and white slaves would dawn. The recent speech of Edwin Mims of Vanderbilt University brings this inevitable rupture nearer. This is the way Mims describes the two divisions of the South:

A. The South represented by
   - Blease and Vardaman
   - Lynching
   - The Ku Klux Klan
   - Ecclesiastical demagogues opposing evolution, etc.

B. The South represented by
   - Glass and Underwood
   - Opposition to lynching under "any and all circumstances"
   - Repudiation of the Ku Klux Klan and help for "every race and creed".

This latter South is the South that is fighting "for economic efficiency, for

widespread intelligence, for the right of criticism, for freedom of thought and for genuine nationalism".

We could choose better representatives of the best South, to our mind, and a more definite fighting slogan, but for the word above we are devoutly thankful.

Prizes

THE CRISIS does not for a moment over-estimate prize-giving as an encouragement to human effort. Such plans always have many serious drawbacks; they emphasize the money motive for writing among young persons to whom the Will to Create ought to be more than sufficient; they give rise almost inevitably to a scramble for place and envy of success and especially they encourage often an undue forcing of the creative process.

On the other hand, there is no doubt but many young colored people are writing today who have been encouraged to do so by the many prizes recently offered. But the good done them and the evident increase in the quantity and quality of Negro American Literature is probably to be measured not so much by the accomplishment of the prize winners, as by the encouragement to many who received no prizes. It is probably true that most of the world's greatest writers never won a literary prize. But doubtless many of them were first brought to a realization of their ability to write by trying unsuccessfully at first to create Literature and by hearing of the success of others. In our distribution this year of over $2,000 in prizes for work in Literature and Art, we have especially in mind those who are going to try to write even more than those who are going to win.

Bishops

ONE can easily see the progress that the American Negro has made in the last ten years. Much less than a generation ago if prominent Negroes had been excluded from a Washington banquet it would have been deemed wise to say nothing concerning the incident, or even to have submitted to segregation. Today we have a so-called "National Citizens Committee of One Thousand for Law Enforcement and Law Observance" insulting four black Bishops through Carlton N. Sherwood by asking them not to come to the banquet but to attend the business session afterward. These Bishops refused to accept the insult and withdrew from the organization. The action of the organization was thoroughly contemptible and its shifting of responsibility even more so. The action of the Bishops deserves praise in every particular. They did not ask to attend this banquet. They were invited. They did not fight, yell or make any disturbance. They just stayed away.

Liberia

WE have not the full text of President King's recent word concerning missions. But we would like to point out to those writers who are easily and hastily criticising this decision and the Firestone concession that a more sympathetic attitude toward Liberia and her problems would better accord with the facts.

Of the great good will back of Christian missions and the spirit of sacrifice no one doubts. Education and sanitation in Africa and Asia owe a great debt to them. On the other hand they have much evil to answer for: they have helped introduce imperial aggression and harmful trade and they have interfered again and again with blundering ignorance into the delicate internal affairs of nations and peoples they did not understand. When a great rich foreign church establishes in a small poor African land a missionary church and school it can easily come to assume toward the little country an attitude of mastery and dictation which is annoying and dangerous. The American Church in Turkey and the English Church in China are grave political problems in those countries and if Liberia believes that foreign missions are endangering her stability and advance, then instead of swearing at her and calling her names it would be wiser and more Christian to sit in conference with the Liberians and find out how Christianity could help and not hinder that struggling land.

Again there is no warrant for the assumption that the new rubber industry in Liberia is bound to spell disaster. Liberia had to have modern industry. Without it the maintenance of her independence in the face of the Modern World was impossible. Her struggle with England, France and Germany was a struggle for adequate capital to support indigenous industries. In that struggle she was cheated of invaluable territory and saddled with unjust debt, but she emerged still independent. Liberia's financial arrangements with Firestone are as equitable as any country could obtain and far better than anything ever offered Liberia before by any other country. The land is leased and not sold; the power of the government is fully recognized; the necessary loan for harbor facilities and other developments was secured in the open market and not from the Firestone Company; and disputes are to be settled not by the United States but by the League of Nations.

Certain it is that a great overshadowing corporation like this in a small country is going to wield extraordinary power; as great as that of the railroads and steel and oil interests in the United States. Liberia faces the same difficulty of controlling organized wealth as other modern lands with the disadvantage of being a "colored" country; but with the advantage of having two or three million colored voters in the United States who can, if they have sense enough, curb the Firestone power in case it becomes over-aggressive.

Aiken

DOES America thoroughly realize Aiken? Citizens declared by South Carolina courts of law to be either entirely innocent of crime or of unproven guilt have been openly murdered by persons well-known to the public. The authorities so far have refused to indict or arrest these murderers or to make any real inquiry into their guilt. These red-handed assassins walk the streets of Aiken today free, impudent and unafraid. And the city of Aiken is advertised in the public press as an "attractive" winter resort!

What shall we do? The Constitution of the United States guarantees each state "A republican form of government". Blease, the lynchers' United States Senator, was elected by less than one-tenth of the qualified voters of the state. The lynchers and the Ku Klux Klan rule the city of Aiken and its county.

Is it possible that we the people of the United States, 120 millions strong, with a great army of 120,000 men and a navy costing $300,000,000 a year; with 47 million Christians in hundreds of thousands of churches; with millionaire Foundations for Uplift, Art and Charity; with missionaries in China, India and Africa; we who in spotless holiness refuse to recognize Russia and curse the Grand Turk; we who in absolute and impeccable fairness and justice forgive no single foreign debtor a red cent if we can squeeze it from his bankrupt soul; this "Land of the Free and Home of the Brave", that boasts before God its Fundamental Righteousness—is it possible that in Aiken we can do nothing, *nothing, NOTHING*?

Which contributed article in this number do you like best? Which second and third best? The articles with most votes will receive, at the end of the year, the Charles Waddell Chesnutt honoraria.

Here are Your Favorite Spirituals

12390—When the Saints Come Marching Home (Jubilee) and **I'm On My Way to Kingdom Land,** BoWeavil Jackson.

12371—See the Sign of Judgment and **Revival Days,** Norfolk Jubilee Quartette.

12388—Yes He Did and **Stop, Look, Listen,** C. A. Tindley Bible Class Singers.

12356—I'm Gonna Do All I Can For My Lord and **Jesus, Lay Your Head in the Window,** Norfolk Jubilee Quartette.

12073—When All the Saints Come Marching In and **That Old Time Religion,** Paramount Jubilee Singers.

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